NAACP
ADMINISTRATION
1956-65

GENERAL OFFICE FILE

Reprisals
Florida Investigation Committee
1956-1957 Feds

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April 20, 1956

NAACP. Libel Suit Fla.

Theodore R. Kupferman, Esq.
34 East 51st Street
New York 22, New York

Dear Ted:

Jack Greenberg sent you the material on the case in South Carolina. I am enclosing the material on the case in Florida. As you will note, the trial is set for May 21 and our local attorney made several moves in the case without consulting with us and we do not even know the grounds on which the portion of his answer asserting privileges as a defense was ordered stricken by the court. This, apparently, is the case which will need immediate attention. You will note from the rough draft memoranda which Bill Taylor has done the approach he is suggesting that we take in this case. We would appreciate any suggestions that you might have, and if you want any additional information on the case, let me suggest that if I am not in the office that you talk to Bill Taylor.

I am also enclosing the complaint in the Alabama case. We are not certain of the kind of case this is. It appears to be one of malicious prosecution rather than a question of libel. Arthur Shores, our local attorney, filed a demurrer on his own behalf and a plea in abatement in behalf of the Association. He advises us that he can amend both of these pleadings or file other motions prior to the hearing which, in his opinion, is some six months hence.

Sincerely yours,

Robert L. Carter
Assistant Counsel

RLC:plh
Encls.

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GPC

Fla Political Letters

13913 MAY 11 '56

AIR MAIL

May 7th
1956

Mr. Roy Wilkins
Executive Secretary, NAACP
20 West 40th Street
New York 18, New York

Dear Sir:

I have enclosed copies from the May 6th issue of the Tampa Morning Tribune's editorial page in which the present political brawl in this state is well illustrated.

The question of race and segregation was one that was not introduced in the political race for governor until retired National Guard General Sumpter L. Lowry began to make an issue of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision ending racial segregation. As time progressed and other court decisions and commission regulations on transportation were handed down, "this man Lowry" added them to his campaign. He was known to have solicited the support of Lake County Sheriff Willis V. McCall and other race baiters to aid him in campaigning. The significant thing about the whole political situation is that after the integration issue was introduced then the other campaigners made it their business to "hop on the segregation train." Even Collins, who here-to-fore stood for gradualism, took a stand in favor of continued segregation.

As a result of the Supreme Court's refusal to reconsider the Virgil Hawkins case, Collins made a bid for the "pan-handle" votes (Northwest Florida) by setting up a commission of retired judges to study ways of maintaining racial segregation in Florida by the use of legal and peaceful means. This Commission is now studying the Decision of the Court and the Florida statutes inorder to make recommendations to the governor. It is also suggested by the Attorney General Richard Ervin that the Legislature which was recessed during a heated issue surrounding reapportionment of the State Senate (a Constitutional Requirement every ten years I believe), should when it reconvenes in June, consider itself adjourned and that the Governor should call it into special session again for the purpose of passing legislation which would make it impossible to end racial segregation in Florida. This is also significant in that the question of reapportionment which is required by-law will be set aside for the purpose of allowing legislation to be passed in order to by pass the Supreme Court's decision.

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The stand that Lowry took while campaigning was amusing to experianced observers. He was allowed to resign from the Board of Directors of the Gulf Life Insurance Company where he served as Chairman. As soon as the Negro policyholders discovered that he had been connected with that company, they immediately began to either cash in their policies or to drop their insurance. This company controlled the majority of insurance policies issued to Negroes in this state. To date, it is estimated that they have lost nearly 65% of the Negro business in metropolitan areas and a good amount in other smaller areas. "The Central Life Insurance Company has gained in business during the campaign," an executive stated to me. Another pertinant fact was the discovery that Lowry was supported by one Ed Ball, who has worked for the Dupont Interests in this st te for a number of years. Ball acknowledged his support of Lowry in the Campaign.

The question of where the NAACP stood in the heat of the drive may arise. First of all, it might be answered by saying that the candidate who was considered tops in the race had at one time stood for a form of "radicalism." In addition, he was criticized as having formed a coalition with the NAACP for the block vote of the Negro in Florida. His commuting of the sentence of Walter Lee Irvin brought about a further cry of "NAACP supporter" from his opponants. Secondly, Lowry's program has done more to arouse Negroes in Florida than all of the issues placed before them in the last ten years (including the death of Harry T. Moore). (If we had a few more Lowrys constantly hammering at the Negro in Florida instead of the type of white who believes in handing out a few privileges now and then we could probably move a little faster). We could never had paid for the publicity which the NAACP received (and which there were no direct attacks upon the organization, only the attempt to connect Collins with us) over radio, press and TV. By refusing to become involved with the arguments, we gave the candidates nothing to attack us with. As a result, we have built up a considerable quantity of good will in white communities.

The result of this election will tell if the state of Florida will fall in line with Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi or if it will oppose race baiting and an attempt to create lawlessness. I shall send you a complete report on the results Wednesday when the votes have been counted.

Sunday

Very truly yours,

Bob Saunders

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# TAMPA MORNING TRIBUNE

Published by THE TRIBUNE COMPANY, Lafayette and Morgan Sts., Tampa, Fla.

President and Publisher ..... J. C. COUNCIL
Editorial Director ... E. D. Lambright  Managing Editor ... V. M. Newton, Jr.

Page 14  EDITORIALS  Thursday, May 10, 1956


**BIBLE THOUGHT—Jesus saith unto her: I that speak unto thee am He.—John 4:26.—Christ was not above teaching a great lesson to a single unimportant individual. We have many comparable chances to teach.**

## Thunder From the Polls

THERE was thunder in Florida Tuesday that was heard around the nation.

It was the voice of the state's voters, making history.

They made history by giving Governor LeRoy Collins the Democratic nomination in the first primary. No candidate for Governor ever before won without a runoff.

They made history again by nominating as their Governor a man already holding the office. This never happened before, either—it was possible only because Collins is serving the unexpired term of the late Dan McCarty.

And they made history by demonstrating to the nation that at least one Southern state is grown-up enough to meet the segregation problem with reason rather than emotion.

The voice of the people gave a deserved ovation to LeRoy Collins, who in 16 months has shown himself to be a leader of rare talents; the same voice delivered a crashing rebuke to the criers of race hatred.

All in all, it was a great day—both for LeRoy Collins and for Florida.

This election proved, once more, that the people are smarter than politicians give them credit for being.

It proved, too, we think, that the day is gone when the gusty demagogue or the pie-in-the-sky promiser can rally this state behind him.

* * *

The thunder that rolled out of the polling places from Pensacola to Key West was unmistakable.

Sumter Lowry, the retired National Guard general who campaigned solely on the race issue and whooped it up for "interposition" (by which he apparently meant open defiance of the Federal Government) had boasted he would lead the ticket. *He ended up about a quarter of a million votes behind Collins.* In his home county of Hillsborough he got only 22 per cent of the vote and was beaten badly in his own precinct.

Fuller Warren, the ex - Governor, started out with a bag full of candy to entice the voters, including the big peppermint stick of $10,000 homestead tax exemption. Then he virtually dropped the whole bag in a frantic effort to outshout Lowry on segregation. Warren vowed he would carry 51 counties; he actually carried four small ones and straggled in fourth. His home county of Dade gave him *only 13,000 of its 150,000 votes.*

Farris Bryant, the former House Speaker who had stood with Collins on most issues but found it expedient to accuse the Governor of multiple failures of leadership, discovered that only about 100,000 voters thought he could do better.

Besides rejecting the race-baiters in the Governor's campaign, the people also repudiated them in the races for United States Senator and state Attorney General. Senator George Smathers and Attorney General Richard Ervin, who have taken the approach of reason, crushed opponents who accused them of not fighting vigorously enough against integration.

* * *

The election result should affect Florida's future in several important ways.

It will help avert any extreme action in the effort to preserve segregation. The people have shown they are content to have this sensitive problem handled as now, by the orderly processes of law.

With 400,000 votes behind him and a four-year term ahead of him, Governor Collins is in a strong position to carry out his proposed governmental reforms. These include fair apportionment of legislative seats and constitutional revision.

The decisive defeat of both Warren and Bryant, who had endorsed the plan to give each of the 67 counties a senator, virtually assures the death of this amendment in the November election. Governor Collins opposes it and rightly so. It would give the small, rural counties a stranglehold on all legislation forevermore.

Lastly, the victory of the Collins administration assures prospective investors that this state will continue to move forward under sound and progressive leadership.

We congratulate LeRoy Collins on a personal triumph. We congratulate the people of Florida on their wisdom. And, especially, we congratulate the voters of Hillsborough County, 56 per cent of whom contributed their voices to this historic clap of thunder.

## County Primary Results

Our congratulations to the successful candidates in the Hillsborough County first primary; also to the more than 61,000 [illegible] who, despite unfavorable [illegible] the polls to show their [illegible] Chiaramonte for the [illegible] Nuccio for coun[illegible]

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# Johnson Takes Lead In Texas

DALLAS, May 5.—(AP)—Senate Majority Leader Lyndon Johnson tonight swept to an impressive lead in his battle to capture the Texas Democratic Party machinery from Gov. Allan Shivers.

A victory for Johnson has national implications. He would be Texas' "favorite son" candidate for president, and political experts say the victory would bring him strong support for national party nominee for president.

Incomplete and unofficial Associated Press reports shortly before 11 P. M. indicated that Johnson leading with 651 votes in the state convention and Shivers 181. It requires 951 votes for a majority in the state convention.

Scene of today's battles were 5000 precinct conventions which elected delegates to the county conventions meeting Tuesday. These county conclaves will elect delegates to the state convention, which meets May 22.

With a number of rump, or rival, conventions developing, there was the possibility that the outcome of today's crucial meetings might not be finally known until it is decided which delegations will be recognized at county conventions next Tuesday.

**Heated Campaign**

The precinct sessions today climaxed several weeks of heated campaigning between Governor Shivers and Johnson, U. S. Senate majority leader. Both want leadership of the Texas delegation to the national Democratic convention. Johnson also has been proposed by House Speaker Sam Rayburn as a "favorite son" candidate for the presidential nomination.

The first substantial reports today came from the Texarkana area in far northeast Texas. In reports from 27 of 43 conventions, Johnson got 60 of the delegation votes to the county convention while Shivers had 55. Both sides claimed seven votes in one precinct where Shivers forces bolted.

REPUBLICAN PERCENTAGE DOWN

# *Big Vote Percentage Gain Shown By Democrats In Seven Primaries To Date*

WASHINGTON, May 5—(AP) — Nearly complete returns from the seven states that have held two-party presidential primaries so far this year showed today a drop in the total vote and a big percentage increase by the Democrats compared with the 1952 primary vote.

A tabulation by the Associated Press showed a total two-party vote of 5,285,468 in the seven East and Midwest states, compared with 6,539,093 in the same primaries four years ago. All seven states were carried by President Eisenhower in the 1952 general election.

While the aggregate Republican vote this year still topped the Democratic, the latter party pulled up greatly percentagewise, boosting its share of the total from 26.9 in 1952 to 45.1. The GOP percentage dropped from 73.1 to 54.9.

**The Totals**

Republicans polled 2,899,263 and the Democrats 2,386,205 this year. In 1952 the respective totals were 4,782,126 and 1,756,967.

Republicans outpolled the Democrats in all but Minnesota and Massachusetts this year. Four years ago the GOP led all seven states.

Republican totals dropped in all seven states this year compared with 1952 and fell in percentage of the total vote in all except New Jersey. Democratic totals dropped in New Hampshire, Illinois, New Jersey and Massachusetts and gained in percentage of the total vote in all but New Jersey.

Both parties have given different interpretations of the state-by-state results. It is generally agreed, however, that primary votes vary from year to year because some years there will be hot contests in one or both parties and in other years intra-party competition will be lacking. Issues, of course, figure in the change.

For example, New Hampshire's total vote of 99,430 this year was 36,729 less than the 1952 presidential primary record. The drop was due largely to lack of any real GOP fight this year. Four years ago the 1952 primary featured a sizzling Eisenhower-Taft struggle.

In Minnesota, for another example, the reversal of the 1952 situation this year, with the Democratic vote more than doubling the Republican total, was attributed among other things to farm unrest, a wide open primary permitting cross-voting, and a hot Stevenson-Kefauver contest. There was no such Democratic competition in 1952.

A third example was in Massachusetts where the big drop in the 1956 vote was due to the almost complete lack of contests this year, whereas four years ago the Eisenhower-Taft battle attracted a heavy ballot turnout.

Following is a table of the vote in the seven states, compared with official totals for the 1952 primaries; and totals and percentages cast by each party in both 1956 and 1952: (The New Jersey and Pennsylvania 1956 figures are unofficial and incomplete. The Massachusetts 1956 figures also are unofficial.)

| State | Year | Republican | Pct. | Democrat | Pct. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| N. H. | 1956 | 65,479 | 65.9 | 33,951 | 34.1 |
| | 1952 | 96,507 | 70.7 | 39,652 | 29.0 |
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| | 1952 | 776,624 | 76.3 | 241,525 | 23.7 |

# Maryland Primary Set Monday

BALTIMORE, May 5— (AP) — Marylanders will decide Monday whether to give President Eisenhower and Sen. Estes Kefauver first claim on the presidential nominating votes from this political weather-vane state.

The only opposition for either is a faceless entry called "uninstructed delegation." Neither write-in voting nor crossing of party lines is allowed.

Most interest in the campaign has been focused on the colorful senatorial primaries.

Millard E. Tydings, a veteran of 24 years in the Senate and chairman of its armed services committee before he was bumped from the seat by Republican John Marshall Butler six years ago, is out to get it back.

**Tangled With McCarthy**

Tydings, who tangled with Sen. Joseph McCarthy (R., Wis.) over a Tydings subcommittee handling of a loyalty-in-government investigation, is one of five candidates for the Democratic nomination.

Butler, whose surprise election resulted in a special Senate probe is running for renomination against two political newcomers. In 1950 he was backed by Maryland elements friendly to McCarthy.

In the presidential primary, Democrats may vote either to give Kefauver their 18 nominating votes on the first ballot or to let their delegates go to the convention uninstructed.

Under the same circumstances in 1952, Kefauver won by a nearly 3-1 margin. He drew 137,885 votes. Republicans gave their delegation to Gov. Theodore R. McKeldin in a "favorite son" role.

O.FALK'S

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Luxite

Care-free Luxurious

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Lingerie of durable, weightless feel 40-den nylon that's fit for a queen . . . young or other . . . There are the frilly feminine types and t with severe tailored looks . . . all bearing th famous "LUXITE, by KAYSER" label.

(A) "CRADLE SNATCHER" of Nylon Tricot is frilly sleeper dare be. Rows of self color nylon ruching a scoop neck and the fancy pants. Slashed side on elastic leg. Blue spray, green foam, pink cloud in s medium and large . . . 6.95

(B) PETTISKIRT of 40 denier Nylon Tricot in white, y cream and strawberry cream. So smooth under Su sheaths. Exquisitely finished with double border of em dery and sheer chiffon folds. Small, medium and large.

(C) SLIP OF 40 DENIER NYLON TRICOT. A lined b of lace tops a slender skirt which is finished with an ins lace and permanently pleated flounce. White, in 32 to 40 . . . 5.95

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| . J. (A) | 1956 | 325,570 | 74.4 | 111,838 | 25.6 |

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**Same Choice**

Republicans have the same choice on Eisenhower with their

O.FALK'S
MAY 13TH
Mother's Day

INTIMATELY YOURS OR MOTHER'S . . . TRADITIONALLY FINE

Luxite by KAYSER

Care-free Luxurious Lingerie

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(A) "CRADLE SNATCHER" of Nylon Tricot is frilly as a sleeper dare be. Rows of self color nylon ruching around scoop neck and the fancy pants. Slashed side on top; elastic leg. Blue spray, green foam, pink cloud in small, medium and large . . . 6.95

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(B)

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The first substantial reports today came from the Texarkana area in far northeast Texas. In reports from 27 of 43 conventions, Johnson got 60 of the delegation votes to the county convention while Shivers had 55. Both sides claimed seven votes in one precinct where Shivers forces bolted.

**Goes for Johnson**

The precinct of former U. S. Senator Tom Connally in Marlin, Texas, went for Johnson. Connally had publicly suported Johnson.

In the East Texas city of Longview one precinct with 57 of the 132 votes to be cast by Gregg County next week was taken by Shivers' supporters. The opposition forces then walked out and held another convention to name their own 57 delegates.

Included in the rump convention at Longview were about 75 of the estimated 100 Negroes attending.

**GOP Holds Meetings**

Republicans also held their precinct conventions today but their sessions were expected to be mostly routine. Principal order of business was consideration of resolutions endorsing Eisenhower and Nixon, for reelection.

The state Democratic party has been split since Shivers led party officials and a big segment of the party in suporting Eisenhower in 1952. The rest of the state Democratic party rallied under the leadership of Rayburn and the National Democratic Committee. Johnson did not actively oppose Shivers until Rayburn proposed Johnson's name as delegation leader about two months ago. However, Johnson has said that he suported Adlai Stevenson against Eisenhower in 1952.

Johnson thinks the 56-vote Texas delegation to the national convention should be bound to support the national party nominee. Shivers thinks the delegation should be free to switch its support, as it did in 1952 by refusing to support Stevenson.

## Bradenton Beach

Republicans outpolled the Democrats in all but Minnesota and Massachusetts this year. Four years ago the GOP led all seven states.

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| N. J. (A) | 1956 | 325,570 | 74.4 | 111,838 | 25.6 |
| | 1952 | 673,719 | 72.8 | 251,097 | 27.2 |
| Mass. (B) | 1956 | 54,710 | 48.9 | 57,199 | 51.1 |
| | 1952 | 371,120 | 84.3 | 69,321 | 15.7 |
| Pa. (C) | 1956 | 968,156 | 59.3 | 664,567 | 40.7 |
| | 1952 | 1,171,905 | 90.1 | 128,778 | 9.9 |
| Totals | 1956 | 2,899,263 | 54.9 | 2,386,205 | 45.1 |
| | 1952 | 4,782,126 | 73.1 | 1,756,967 | 26.9 |

(A) New Jersey 1956 figures are unofficial and come from 3992 of 4155 voting districts.

(B) Massachusetts 1956 totals are unofficial based on presidential write-ins. Official figures expected to be larger. 1952 figures include only those expressing presidential preference, although actual vote turnout was larger, Republican 414,234, Democratic 123,739.

(C) Pennsylvania 1956 figures are incomplete. Republican represents all but 71 of 8730 precincts, Democratic all but 75.

Although the party percentages in the above table may not be any guide as to next November's elections, the two-party percentages of the total vote in the 1952 primaries compared with their percentages in the 1952 general election follow:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| N. H. | R 70.7 | R 60.9 |
| | D 29.0 | D 39.1 |
| Minn. | R 69.1 | R 53.3 |
| | D 30.9 | D 44.1 |
| Wis. | R 76.3 | R 61.0 |
| | D 23.7 | D 38.7 |
| Ill. | R 61.0 | R 54.8 |
| | D 39.0 | D 45.0 |
| N. J. | R 72.8 | R 56.8 |
| | D 27.2 | D 42.0 |
| Mass. | R 84.3 | R 54.2 |
| | D 15.7 | D 45.5 |
| Pa. | R 90.1 | R 52.7 |
| | D 9.9 | D 46.9 |

## Contrast In Generals

FT. MEADE, Md.—(AP)—More

## House Group Votes $40-Million For Army Facilities

WASHINGTON, May 5.—(AP)—The House Appropriations Committee has approved a $40,000,000 construction program for Army reserve training facilities and National Guard armories.

The committee recommended that Congress give the Army just what it asked for buildings in which to carry out an expanded beefing-up of Uncle Sam's standby forces.

The reserve training buildings approved, on which the Federal Government would pay the entire cost, include these (number of men designed for and cost, in that order):

Florida — Crestview, 100, $75,000; Orlando, 400, $290,000; Pen-

dling of a loyalty-in-government investigation, is one of five candidates for the Democratic nomination.

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**Same Choice**

Republicans have the same choice on Eisenhower with their 24 convention votes. Beyond a few speeches by McKeldin, who nominated him in the 1952 national convention, there has been little campaigning on Eisenhower's behalf.

Maryland, which since 1880 has been carried by every successful presidential candidate except Harry Truman in 1948, gave Eisenhower 499,424 votes to 395,337 votes Adlai Stevenson in the general election four years ago.

Registered Democrats outnumber Republicans by 752,500 to 316,916. In the absence of a head-on fight in either presidential primary, election officials predicted a light turnout of about 40 per cent.

**Other Contests**

The only other contests involve seven congressional seats, 15 judgeships and delegates to the state conventions of the two major parties. The conventions, to be called within 30 days after the primary, will elect national convention delegates.

Despite support from Mayor Thomas D'Alesandro of Baltimore, Democratic national committeeman, and former Gov. W. Preston Lane, Jr., Tydings faced an uphill battle when he entered the Senate primary.

George P. Mahoney, former state racing commission chairman who created a sensation with his crusade against horse druggings and race "fixes" in the 1940's, had campaigned for months before Tydings announced.

All of Maryland except two rural counties has voting machines.


famous "LUXITE, by KAYSER" label.

(A) **"CRADLE SNATCHER"** of Nylon Tricot is frilly as a sleeper dare be. Rows of self color nylon ruching around scoop neck and the fancy pants. Slashed side on top; elastic leg. Blue spray, green foam, pink cloud in small, medium and large . . . 6.95

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(C)

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**MAIL ORDERS WELCOME**

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Republicans outpolled the emocrats in all but Minneota and Massachusetts this ear. Four years ago the GOP d all seven states.

Republican totals dropped in ll seven states this year compared with 1952 and fell in ercentage of the total vote in ll except New Jersey. Democratic totals dropped in New ampshire, Illinois, New Jerey and Massachusetts and ained in percentage of the total vote in all but New Jersey.

Both parties have given different interpretations of the to the almost complete lack of contests this year, whereas four years ago the Eisenhower-Taft battle attracted a heavy ballot turnout.

Following is a table of the vote in the seven states, compared with official totals for the 1952 primaries; and totals and percentages cast by each party in both 1956 and 1952: (The New Jersey and Pennsylvania 1956 figures are unofficial and incomplete. The Massachusetts 1956 figures also are unofficial.)

| tate | Year | Republican | Pct. | Democrat | Pct. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| I. H. | 1956 | 65,479 | 65.9 | 33,951 | 34.1 |
| | 1952 | 96,507 | 70.7 | 39,652 | 29.0 |
| linn. | 1956 | 205,817 | 32.1 | 434,511 | 67.9 |
| | 1952 | 294,895 | 69.1 | 131,603 | 30.9 |
| Wis. | 1956 | 455,832 | 57.9 | 330,665 | 42.1 |
| | 1952 | 776,624 | 76.3 | 241,525 | 23.7 |
| ll. | 1956 | 823,699 | 52.2 | 753,474 | 47.8 |
| | 1952 | 1,397,356 | 61.0 | 894,991 | 39.0 |
| J. J. (A) | 1956 | 325,570 | 74.4 | 111,838 | 25.6 |
| | 1952 | 673,719 | 72.8 | 251,097 | 27.2 |
| lass. (B) | 1956 | 54,710 | 48.9 | 57,199 | 51.1 |
| | 1952 | 371,120 | 84.3 | 69,321 | 15.7 |
| a. (C) | 1956 | 968,156 | 59.3 | 664,567 | 40.7 |
| | 1952 | 1,171,905 | 90.1 | 128,778 | 9.9 |
| otals | 1956 | 2,899,263 | 54.9 | 2,386,205 | 45.1 |
| | 1952 | 4,782,126 | 73.1 | 1,756,967 | 26.9 |

(A) New Jersey 1956 figures are unofficial and come from 3992 of 4155 voting districts.

(B) Massachusetts 1956 totals are unofficial based on presidential write-ins. Official figures expected to be larger. 1952 figures include only those expressing presidential preference, although actual vote turnout was larger, Republican 414,234, Democratic 123,739.

(C) Pennsylvania 1956 figures are incomplete. Republican represents all but 71 of 8730 precincts, Democratic all but 75.

Although the party percentages in the above table may not be any guide as to next November's elections, the two-party percentages of the total vote in the 1952 primaries compared with their percentages in the 1952 general election follow:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| N. H. | R 70.7 | R 60.9 |
| | D 29.0 | D 39.1 |
| Minn. | R 69.1 | R 53.3 |
| | D 30.9 | D 44.1 |
| Wis. | R 76.3 | R 61.0 |
| | D 23.7 | D 38.7 |
| Ill. | R 61.0 | R 54.8 |
| | D 39.0 | D 45.0 |
| N. J. | R 72.8 | R 56.8 |
| | D 27.2 | D 42.0 |
| Mass. | R 84.3 | R 54.2 |
| | D 15.7 | D 45.5 |
| Pa. | R 90.1 | R 52.7 |
| | D 9.9 | D 46.9 |

## Contrast In Generals

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dling of a loyalty-in-government investigation, is one of five candidates for the Democratic nomination.

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All of Maryland except two rural counties has voting machines.

## House Group Votes $40-Million For Army Facilities

WASHINGTON, May 5.—(AP)—The House Appropriations Committee has approved a $40,000,000 construction program for Army reserve training facilities and National Guard armories.

The committee recommended that Congress give the Army just what it asked for buildings in which to carry out an expanded beefing-up of Uncle Sam's standby forces.

The reserve training buildings approved, on which the Federal Government would pay the entire cost, include these (number of men designed for and cost, in that order):

Florida — Crestview, 100, $75,000; Orlando, 400, $290,000; Pensacola, 200 $158000; St. Peters-

famous "LUXITE, by KAYSER" label.

(A) "CRADLE SNATCHER" of Nylon Tricot is fri'ly as a sleeper dare be. Rows of self color nylon ruching around scoop neck and the fancy pants. Slashed side on top; elastic leg. Blue spray, green foam, pink cloud in small, medium and large . . . 6.95

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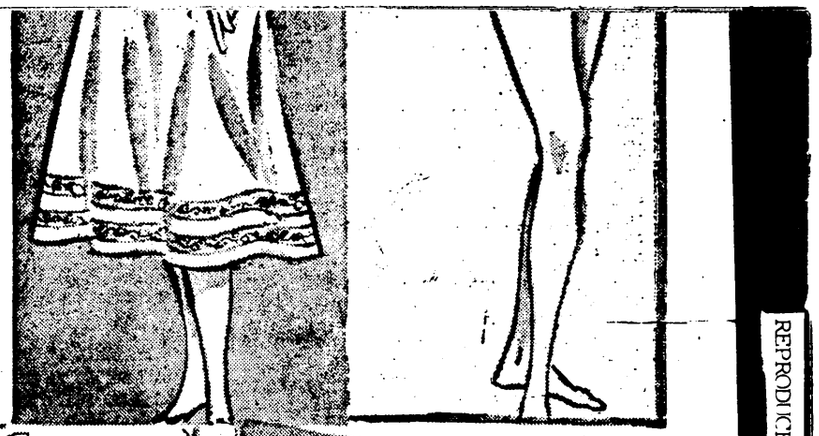

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(E)

MAIL ORDERS WELCOME

*O. Falk's Lingerie — Second Floor*

(D) SLIP OF 40 DENIER NYLON TRICOT in white, strawberry cream, and yellow cream with embroidery and folds of sheer net ornamenting bodice and bottom. Sizes 32 to 40 . . . 5.95

(E) MANDARIN PAJAMAS of nylon tricot that are slimmed to perfection. Contrasting piping accents the short sleeves and pocket and radiates in three rows up to the stand-up collar. White and blue, blue spray, navy and white. Sizes 12 to 18 . . . 8.95

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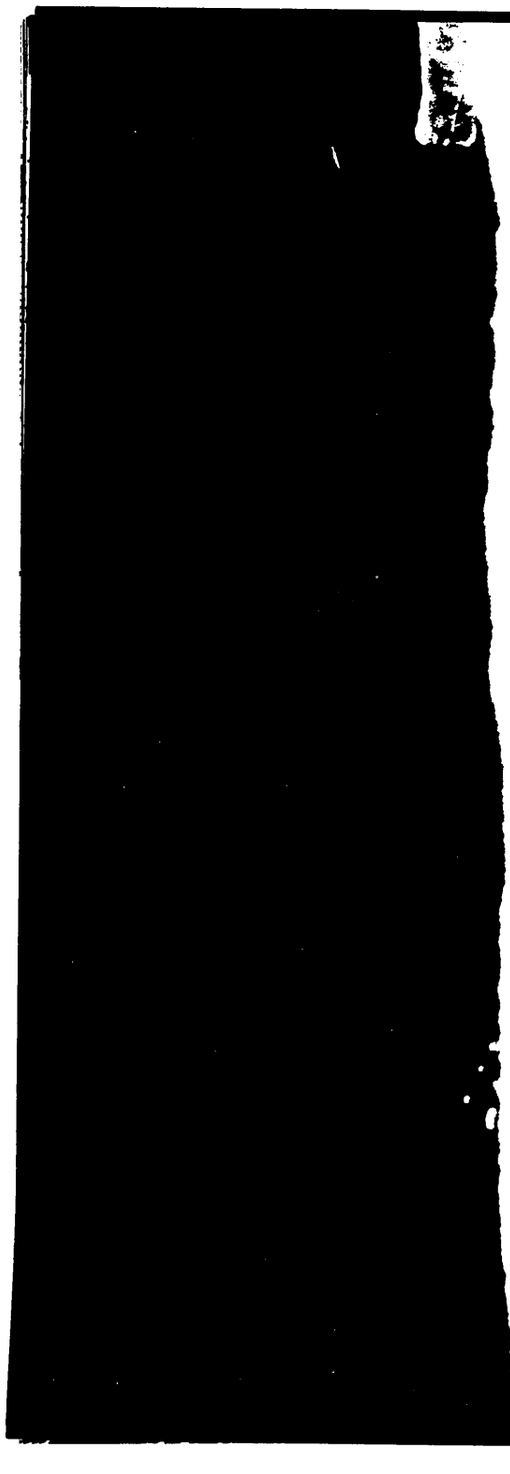

## Official 'Sorry' If 'Authority Exceeded'

BRADENTON BEACH, May 5.—(By Staff Writer)—A heated city council meeting here last night saw Mayor Robert Martini state he was "sorry" he had "exceeded his authority" in the face of charges of misfeasance and malfeasance in office made by the wife of the city clerk, Mrs. James Zerby, who heads the voters league.

Charges of secret meetings of the council, and the purchase of a truck without asking for bids were also made.

Mrs. Zerby charged Martini with consistently overstepping the authority of his office. She charged he ordered the city attorney to file an answer to a suit against the city without the matter first being discussed at a council meeting.

The answer was filed by City Attorney Frank Schaub in reply to a suit filed against the closing of an alley by the council. E. C. Camp filed the suit, and last night also took Martini to task for a trial over an alleged building law violation by Camp which Martini conducted.

The charge that the mayor and a committee had bought a truck without asking bids on it was verified by Councilman Eldon F. Garlock, who said he took the responsibility for the action.

The council voted a resolution last night specifying that all articles costing more that $100 be purchased on open bidding.

## House Study Group Sees Possibility Of Arms For Israel

WASHINGTON, May 5—(AP)—A possibility of last resort shipments of U. S. arms to Israel, to balance Czech shipments to Egypt, was advanced today in the report of a special congressional study mission.

The report called, however, for the use of "every diplomatic means at highest levels in order to effect a prompt settlement" of the dispute between Israel and her Arab neighbors.

ADVERTISEMENT

On the Square ! Jim FAIR

than 100 United States Army generals were on hand for ceremonies honoring the retirement from active service of Lt. Gen. Floyd L. Parks' after 38 years in uniform. In 1930, according to a historian present, there were exactly 65 generals in the entire United States Army.

burg, 400, $225,000; Tallahassee, 200, $158,000; Tampa, 400, $225,000; Wauchula, 100, $68,000; West Palm Beach, 200, $158,000.

The green turtle of the West Indies sometimes reach a weight of 600 pounds.

O.FALK'S

SHOP MONDAY 'TIL 9

FOR MOTHERS
— Young or Old —

*No-Iron Cotton Robe*

5.98

Full length cotton robe of sheer, washable, no-iron cotton in a lovely floral print on grounds of cream, blush and aqua. Zippered front, with contrasting piping on the collar, cuffs, and two pockets. Sizes 10 to 18.

*O. Falk's . Robes Second Floor*

Bali *Bras Were Created to M*

These famous bras give you the seductively slee

**Bali's Quilt Cup Bandeau**

3.50

You'll never believe a cotton bra could be so beautiful until you've seen this lovely one with quilted undercups and embroidered marquisette cup tops. Center front elastic gore for comfort and fit. White only. A cup 32 to 36; B cup 32 to 38; C cup 32 to 40.

**Bali's All New "Beau Coup"**

$5

A new deep bra, to give you a softer, rounder look with natural curves encouraged by tiny satin puffs. The lingerie top is permanently tucked and set in pre-shrunk elastic. Cups are held in shape with whisper-weight, pressure-free flat wire that never presses. White or black. A cup 32 to 36. B and C cups, 32 to 38.

**Balis' Qu Long Li**

$5

The finest agent you can ton turned Bali. Designed the lightest o comfort in elastic sectic side. Quiltec embroidered cup tops. C cloth in white 38; B cup 32 32 to 40.

*O. Falk's Foundati*

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# TAMPA SUNDAY TRIBUNE

Published by THE TRIBUNE COMPANY, Lafayette and Morgan Sts., Tampa, Fla.

President and Publisher.....J. C. COUNCIL
Editorial Director....E. D. Lambright  Managing Editor....V. M. Newton, Jr.




**BIBLE THOUGHT**—My soul is weary of my life.—Job 10:1.—Many people pass through moments of profound depression. The story of Job relates how a man rebounded from the depth of misery. It is God's world and His sun will shine again.

## High Man In Low Campaign

ONE of the saddest governorship campaigns Florida ever has witnessed is rushing toward a decision at the polls.

It's sad because, for the first time in the modern history of this state, men are trying to ride into the Governor's office on the witch's-broom of race hatred.

They already have done immeasureable damage to the racial good-will which long existed in Florida and could continue to exist under responsible leadership.

The devil's dust of prejudice and fear they are scattering will poison this fair land for years to come.

And the Negro will not be the only victim. Race hate, like the fall-out of an atom bomb, strikes far beyond its original target area.

The mind which can be persuaded to despise a black skin turns easily, too, against the "foreign" name or the unorthodox religion.

The demagogue whose trumpet today arouses the populace against the Negro tomorrow may cry out against the Jew, the Latin, the Catholic or any other minority.

Hate's hot ashes, once loosed, fall upon the just and the unjust alike.

Look on the fringes of the governorship campaign today and what do you

So let the people understand full well where this dark road leads.

The saddest part of the whole campaign is that there is really no race issue at all. All major candidates for Governor favor segregated schools; none can do any more than the other to maintain them, for all are limited by the processes of law.

The problem is real but the issue is false.

In a campaign overshadowed, as this one, by a false issue, the true issues have been lost to view. Reapportionment, highways, taxes, school financing, constitutional revision—none has received the attention it deserved.

The candidate who has stuck to the real issues—and to the truth—throughout this campaign is Governor LeRoy Collins. He has told the people the facts; he has never resorted to distorting and misrepresenting the records of his opponents, although he himself has been slandered almost daily.

Of the candidates who entered this campaign in February, LeRoy Collins is the only one to emerge a bigger man in May.

**A Florida which wants to turn back from swamps of hate and climb toward a brighter tomorrow will cast its vote for Collins Tuesday.**

## BOOKS AND BOOKMEN
BY E.D. LAMBRIGHT

### WRITER AND ACTOR

**I prefer acting that I see in the theater to acting in the popular preacher's pulpit, in the Harley Street consulting room, in the law courts or the houses of Parliament. The man who openly plays a character part for two hours a night, with a painted face in the spotlights, is more likely to remain in a healthy state of mind than the man who plays a character part day and night, using every room he enters as his stage . . . Hot vanity is better than cold conceit. Egotism is bad, but egoism is worse, and whereas actors are often egotists, I think authors are more often egoists, giant spiders spinning webs of words out of themselves. Many writers live and work in a cold, self-centered and ungenerous spirit that is far worse than the foolish vanity and bad temper of the theatrical folk.—J. B. Priestly in Rain Upon Godshill (Harper).**

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### SONG AND STORY

RUDYARD KIPLING. By John Beecroft. Doubleday & Co., New York, $5.95. (May Selection of the Literary Guild.)

Doubleday has performed an outstanding service to readers everywhere in the publication of this comprehensive and complete selection of the stories and poems of the immortal English author; and the Literary Guild is due congratulations for making it the May selection for its subscribers.

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These volumes contain his best-known titles. The first includes the complete novel, Kim, considered to be his masterpiece; The Jungle Book, with its imperishable Mowgli stories; Puck of Pook's Hill, not so well-known; the charmful Just So Stories, still as eagerly read as they were a generation ago.

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The edition is beautifully illustrated by Richard M. Powers.

—

### FOR YOUNG READERS

A set of four "Vision Books," intended mainly for young Catholic readers, published by Farrar, Strauss & Cudahy, New York, at $1.95 each:

SAINT JOHN BOSCO AND THE CHILDREN'S SAINT DOMINIC SAVIO. By Catherine Beebe. The life story of John Bosco, the 19th century saint, beloved by boys all over the world, and his pupil, Dominic, who died at the age of 15, who was canonized in 1954.

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### BLURBS

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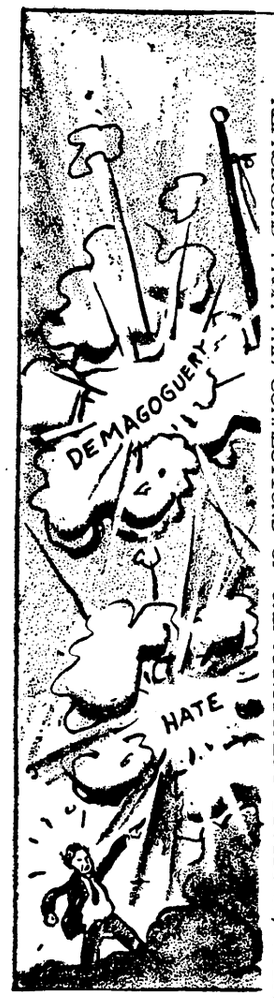


*Drew Pearson*

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ITORIALS Sunday, May 6, 1956

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**THE FLAG IS STILL THERE**

*Drew Pearson*

## Generals Bicker Over Defense Funds

WASHINGTON.—The Joint Chiefs of Staff have been bickering so much over the defense budget that President Eisenhower summoned them to the White House for the first time in two months.

The battle was over cutting up the defense

Party in Brazil and was secretary of labor under the late President Vargas. He is an intimate friend of Oswaldo Aranha, ex-ambassador to the U. S. A. and ex-foreign minister of Brazil. In visiting various parts of the U. S. A. from Texas to Detroit, Goulart is following Aranha's

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and virtually destroyed in Florida, creeping back into the open, like the returning jackal; growing bolder and bolder as it feeds on the meat of bigotry nightly tossed from the political platforms.

It has become so bold in Jacksonville, the headquarters for one candidate for Governor, that Jacksonville ministers last week called for enforcement of state laws against mask-wearing and cross-burning in public.

The Klan means hate, not only for the Negro but for the Jew and Catholic and foreign-born and anybody of differing philosophy. The Klan means violence—its record in Florida and throughout the South is stained with floggings and murders.

**In contests for other offices to be voted on Tuesday The Tribune has endorsed these candidates:**

**U. S. Senator:**
**George Smathers**
**Supreme Court:**
**Group 1—Stephen C. O'Connell**
**Group 3—T. Frank Hobson**
**Secretary of State:**
**R. A. (Bob) Gray**
**Attorney General:**
**Richard (Dick) Ervin**
**Legislature:**
**Group 1—James S. Moody**
**Group 2—Robert T. Mann**
**Group 3—Sam M. Gibbons**
**Sheriff:**
**Ed Blackburn, Jr.**
**Constable:**
**Dist. 1—Malcolm E. Beard**

## The Pardon Board And The Judge

A Lake County grand jury, acting under orders from Circuit Judge Truman G. Futch, last Feb. 24 began an inquiry into the State Pardon Board's action in sparing the life of Walter Lee Irvin, a Negro convicted of rape.

After an investigation extending over a period of 2½ months, the jury concluded that the Pardon Board had a legal right to commute Irvin's sentence to life imprisonment but recommended further investigation by the Legislature. (It did not indicate what it thought the Legislature might accomplish.)

The jury held that the prosecution produced sufficient evidence for Irvin's conviction but conceded that both sides in the case "were negligent in failing to use all available scientific, clinical and medical means of investigation."

The jury made no charges of wrongdoing on the part of Governor Collins or other members of the Pardon Board. It alleged no bargain with the NAACP. It did not even hint that there might be a Communist in the woodpile.

So the report must have been a sore disappointment to the enemies of Governor Collins who have been using his humanitarian action in this case in an attempt to smear him for political purposes.

* * *

members of the Pardon Board — all elected Cabinet officers — agreed with him.

The Lake County grand jury said it shut out political considerations from its investigation and, so far as we can determine from its report, it seems to have done so.

But because the Irvin case has been and is being used so shamelessly for political purposes by Governor Collins' opponents, the voters are entitled to examine the whole background of this most unusual investigation.

No grand jury ever before, within our memory, was ordered by a circuit judge to inquire into the actions of a Pardon Board.

Judge Futch's order came out of a clear blue sky, *two months* after the Pardon Board action. He based it on a secretly-circulated petition of 121 names.

In his remarks to the grand jury on several occasions, Judge Futch went out of his way to criticize Governor Collins. At one point he suggested that "the Communist Party" had something to do with influencing the commutation.

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## Defense Rec

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the only one to emerge a bigger man in May.

**A Florida which wants to turn back from swamps of hate and climb toward a brighter tomorrow will cast its vote for Collins Tuesday.**

## Other Candidates

**In contests for other offices to be voted on Tuesday The Tribune has endorsed these candidates:**

**U. S. Senator:**
**George Smathers**
**Supreme Court:**
**Group 1—Stephen C. O'Connell**
**Group 3—T. Frank Hobson**
**Secretary of State:**
**R. A. (Bob) Gray**
**Attorney General:**
**Richard (Dick) Ervin**
**Legislature:**
**Group 1—James S. Moody**
**Group 2—Robert T. Mann**
**Group 3—Sam M. Gibbons**
**Sheriff:**
**Ed Blackburn, Jr.**
**Constable:**
**Dist. 1—Malcolm E. Beard**

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members of the Pardon Board — all elected Cabinet officers — agreed with him.

The Lake County grand jury said it shut out political considerations from its investigation and, so far as we can determine from its report, it seems to have done so.

But because the Irvin case has been and is being used so shamelessly for political purposes by Governor Collins' opponents, the voters are entitled to examine the whole background of this most unusual investigation.

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the complete novel, Kim, considered to be his masterpiece; The Jungle Book, with its imperishable Mowgli stories; Puck of Pook's Hill, not so well-known; the charmful Just So Stories, still as eagerly read as they were a generation ago.

The second volume contains the short stories, the poems, the autobiography — Something of Myself—an intimate story of his life, his trials and triumphs, his failures and successes, how and why he wrote. It begins with his birth in Bombay, where his father was head of the Bombay School of Art, his being sent home to England at the age of six, his enrollment in the United Services College in North Devon, where he started writing, editing the college magazine and contributing verse to a local paper. After his education was completed, he returned to India, working on the staff of two magazines, one of which sent him to London. It was then that he met Caroline Starr Balestier, sister of the American writer, Charles Wolcott Balestier, and married her several years later. They lived for awhile in Brattleboro, Vermont, returned to England. Kipling went to South Africa to report the Boer War, then settled down in Sussex, where he remained the rest of his life. His stay in the United States was saddened by the death of his daughter.

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Am An American Day, 20th; Maritime Day, 22nd; Poetry Day, 24th; Memorial Day, 30th : : From those you should be able to select one to your liking : : Most widely and deservedly observed, the Sunday in honor of mothers : : In The Last Stitch, (Lippincott) Dr. W. L. Crosthwait tells of practising medicine 50 years in Texas—and he hasn't taken the last stitch yet : : In A Man's World Douglas Fairbairn has as his hero a mess boy on a millionaire's yacht, tied up on the Riviera—unusual adventure (Simon & Schuster) : : Guild August selection, The Half-Crown House — by Helen Ashton — impoverished English family collects half-crowns from visitors to their ancestral home : : Tecumseh, famed Indian chief of the early 1800s, subject of a new book by Glenn Tucker (Bobbs-Merrill) : : He tried to form a confederacy of tribes to keep whites off their lands, was killed : : After Tuesday there'll be only two gubernatorial candidates to listen to and the political atmosphere should become clearer—and cleaner : : Facile Fuller's friends believe that one term—good or bad—deserves another : : Sumter spies something dark "in the woodpile" : : Somebody stole LeRoy's watch — but it hasn't caused him to lose any time in his race : : Marion Hargrave is in the book news again—his latest, The Girl He Left Behind, to be published by Viking and screened by the Warners : : Attention, card addicts—do you wish to play Oh Hell, Snip Snap Shore and Lame Brains? : : New games, described in The New Complete Hoyle, (Garden City Books) : : Very thoughtful and press-agentry of Dial Press—sending me a Kefauver biography, in time for the May 29 primary : : Just heard of a guy who was so stingy that when he took his girl to the beach on a hot sunny day, didn't buy her a parasol—just told shady stories : : A practical politician is one who finds out which way the crowd is moving, then elbows his way to the front and yells for the winner : : A woman who no longer finds fault with her husband—a widow. : : VOTE!

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## Generals Bicker Over Defense Funds

WASHINGTON.—The Joint Chiefs of Staff have been bickering so much over the defense budget that President Eisenhower summoned them to the White House for the first time in two months.

The battle was over cutting up the defense dollar, with Gen. Maxwell Taylor, the Army Chief of Staff, grumbling against Secretary of Defense Wilson's plan to increase the Air Force at the expense of the Army. The grumbling reached such a point that Wilson finally complained to Eisenhower that the Joint Chiefs were not cooperating.

Eisenhower, who used to have quite a bit to do with the Army, promptly summoned the Joint Chiefs to the White House, gave them a pep talk and a lecture, urged them to pull together as a team.

"I want you to know," he said, "that my door is always open if you have any problems."

The President then brought up the question of the medium-range guided missile, and asked General Taylor, who once served under Ike in Germany, what plans the Army had for it. Taylor did not seem too well prepared, spoke in generalities.

Then the President turned to Gen. Nathan Twining, Air Force Chief of Staff, who produced a map of detailed plans for installing the medium-range guided missile at U. S. bases overseas in a carefully arranged pattern around the edge of the Iron Curtain.

General Twining was so lucid and clear in his explanation and out-talked Taylor so effectively that the President agreed with the Air Force plan.

Afterward, General Taylor went back to the Pentagon and cussed out his Army subordinates for not giving him a better briefing.

* * *

**BRAZIL IS THE BEST** friend the U. S. A. has in South America. Despite that, the White House did not bother to give the vice president of Brazil one of the many private airplanes kept by the White House, Secretary Dulles and the Pentagon to fly Cabinet officers, brass hats and their wives to various parts of the U. S. A. and the world.

Instead, Vice President Joao Goulart chugged from Washington to the King ranch in Texas in a slowpoke DC-3 supplied by Braniff Airlines. The trip took 10 hours—about half as long as a flight to Brazil.

Goulart, a big cattle rancher in Rio Grande do Sul in Southern Brazil, is not only visiting the King ranch, but stopping off to see Mayor Bartle of Kansas City; will also visit Dr. Wallace Graham, Truman's physician in Kansas City; and in Detroit will confer with both Henry Ford and Walter Reuther, head of United Auto Workers.

The vice president is head of the Labor Party in Brazil and was secretary of labor under the late President Vargas. He is an intimate friend of Oswaldo Aranha, ex-ambassador to the U. S. A. and ex-foreign minister of Brazil. In visiting various parts of the U. S. A. from Texas to Detroit, Goulart is following Aranha's advice to get away from the folderol of Washington.

* * *

**EX-SEN. HARRY CAIN,** once a rootin'-tootin' Republican pal of Joe McCarthy, delivered what may be his swan song over the weekend. He fired such a hot blast against the witch-hunting tactics of the Eisenhower administration that he will be reappointed to the Subversive Activities Control Board only over Herb Brownell's dead body.

Speaking in New York, the ex-Senator from Washington charged that Eisenhower preached high principles but didn't carry them out; that his wartime command system whereby each subordinate reported back to him was not working in our civilian form of government.

The Eisenhower security system, Cain charged, has undermined the Bill of Rights and the fundamental freedoms guaranteed under the Constitution; also has helped Soviet Russia.

* * *

**CAIN HAS BEEN KICKING** over the traces against the Eisenhower security system almost ever since he was appointed to the Subversive Activities Control Board which is charged with deciding which political groups, ranging from the Communist Party to the Ku Klux Klan are subversive.

Cain had a change of heart shortly after he was appointed and let it be known that he'd come to realize how much McCarthyism had undermined our liberties. From that point on he proceeded to battle against most of the things McCarthy stood for. Yet a year or so before, when McCarthy's war record for having resigned from the Marine Corps during the height of the Pacific campaign was under scrutiny, Cain was the only Senator to take the floor in McCarthy's defense.

* * *

**ATTORNEY GENERAL BROWNELL,** under whom Cain operates, has been gunning for him ever since he deserted McCarthyism. Brownell made a statement against Cain in Seattle and is credited with inspiring the move to make Cain step aside because of alleged prejudice in the Washington pension union case. Cain's colleagues, however, stood with him 100 per cent.

Brownell, who is strong for the principles of the American Legion, will have a surprise in store for him when he tries to block Cain's reappointment to the board. For Cain was appointed Jan. 31, 1956, as a member of the Legion's counter-subversive committee.

*Stewart Alsop*

## Defense Red Tape Snarls Our Missile Effort

WASHINGTON—In this era of complacency, the most cogent warnings are blithely disre- questions which the President asked the assembled moguls of his administration at Camp

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The jury held that the prosecution produced sufficient evidence for Irvin's conviction but conceded that both sides in the case "were negligent in failing to use all available scientific, clinical and medical means of investigation."

The jury made no charges of wrongdoing on the part of Governor Collins or other members of the Pardon Board. It alleged no bargain with the NAACP. It did not even hint that there might be a Communist in the woodpile.

So the report must have been a sore disappointment to the enemies of Governor Collins who have been using his humanitarian action in this case in an attempt to smear him for political purposes.

* * *

Governor Collins frankly said he recommended mercy for Irvin because, under the circumstances of the case, his conscience would not let him sign a death warrant for the Negro.

Among the circumstances were these: No confession was offered at the trial and Irvin consistently maintained his innocence, even when he was believed to be dying of gunshot wounds.

The Lake County prosecutor, the late J. W. Hunter, stated that *he had offered Irvin a life sentence to plead guilty* but the Negro refused.

No medical proof that the woman had been raped was produced at the trial and certain other points of physical corroboration were lacking.

These circumstances would not have troubled a Governor content to follow the easy course. The easiest course, and the politically smart course, would have been to let Irvin go to the electric chair. After all, white voters outnumber Negro voters in Florida by 9 to 1.

But because Governor Collins believes that all men, of whatever color or station, are entitled to equal justice, he took the political risk of recommending a life sentence for Irvin. The four other most unusual investigation.

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Five days after Judge Futch ordered the grand jury investigation, Warren announced he would run for Governor again.

While the investigation was in progress last month, Judge Futch made a campaign speech for Warren and in that speech attacked Governor Collins.

**Yet the code of ethics of the American Bar Association, adopted by the Florida Supreme Court, forbids judges from publicly endorsing candidates.**

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Here was a judge presiding over a grand jury investigation chiefly directed at one candidate for Governor while he was actively supporting an opposing candidate. Can a judge preserve the impartiality expected of him under such circumstances? We think not.

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## Defense Red Tape Snarls Our Missile Effort

WASHINGTON—In this era of complacency, the most cogent warnings are blithely disregarded. For example, former Assistant Secretary of the Air Force Trevor Gardner has written two articles in Look magazine citing undenied facts to prove that this country is losing both the air power and the missiles race to the Soviet Union. Hardly anybody has paid much attention.

Perhaps more attention would have been paid if it had been known that the second Gardner article on the missile race was written in the hope that it would be read by President Eisenhower, and that the President would recognize in it a special, hidden meaning.

* * *

**THE STORY GOES BACK** to last November, when the President, at a meeting of the National Security Council at Camp David, again took up the reins of government after his heart attack. At the Camp David meeting, the President was briefed on the major problems confronting his administration. Gardner, together with Deputy Secretary of Defense Reuben Robertson and one or two others, was assigned to brief the President on the missile problem.

The President was told how, in midSummer, almost certain knowledge had come into the hands of the government that the Soviets were already testing medium range missiles. He was told how a decision had very recently been taken to start a new missile program to attempt to match the Soviet achievement in the medium range field. And the cumbrous organization of the whole missile program was described to the President.

* * *

**AFTER HIS BRIEFING,** the President asked certain angry questions. And this is why Gardner's second article, Our Guided Missile Crisis, should have had a special significance to the President. Towards the end of the article, there appears the following paragraph, which Gardner italicized:

"Why did it take from August to November to make a decision to proceed with the medium range missile? Why is the present organization so filled with committees? Why wasn't one man put in charge of the entire program at an early stage? . . . Won't inter-service rivalries and the multiplicity of programs result in a slowdown of intercontinental ballistic missile progress? Why isn't the ICBM given a clear top priority over other missile programs?"

These are, in paraphrase, precisely the same questions which the President asked the assembled moguls of his administration at Camp David after he had been briefed on the missiles crisis by Gardner and Robertson. The questions remain unanswered—a point which Gardner, when he wrote the article, undoubtedly hoped would strike the President.

* * *

**THE PRESIDENT HAS,** in fact, recognized from the first the huge significance of the evidence of Soviet success in the missile field. After the evidence became available, and while the President was vacationing in Colorado before his heart attack, Secretary of the Air Force Donald Quarles wrote a memorandum for him on the missile problem.

The Quarles memorandum took the line that the Soviet achievement was important, but not decisively important in view of the continuing superiority of the United States in the air-atomic field. The memorandum recommended progress in the missile field with "all practicable" speed.

The President revised the memorandum with his own hand, underlining the decisive importance of the Soviet achievement, changing "all practicable" to "all possible" and assigning top priority to missile development. Again, at the Camp David meeting, as the questions paraphrased by Gardner suggest, the President made it abundantly clear that he was deeply disturbed by our relative lack of progress in the missile field. He said that he was determined to get someone to run the missiles program the way it ought to be run, even if he had to do the job himself.

* * *

**YET THE PRESIDENT'S** angry questions still need answering and, as Gardner proves beyond question in his article, the missiles program is still inadequate and badly organized. It is not really being run by anyone. Why?

Gardner asks the same question in his article: "How can all this happen, many citizens will ask, when the President himself is a great general? It happens because . . . the communications system he relies on simply isn't working." This is another way of saying that the built-in resistance in the vast bureaucracy of the defense establishment to the needed drastic change in the organization of our missile effort has so far proved too strong for the President to buck—about as disturbing a conclusion as it is possible to imagine.

(Copyright, 1956, New York Herald Tribune, Inc.)

per cent.

Brownell, who is strong for the principles of the American Legion, will have a surprise in store for him when he tries to block Cain's reappointment to the board. For Cain was appointed Jan. 31, 1956, as a member of the Legion's counter-subversive committee.

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*Other Editors Talk About:*

# The Governor's Race

★ ★ ★

## A Governor To Keep

**CLEARWATER SUN**

Of the six Democratic candidates in the field, Gov. LeRoy Collins stands head and shoulders above them all. He has by all odds made Florida one of the best Governors in the state's history. In honest dealing in office, in his legislative record measured against his platform pledges, as an executive and as a man his stature towers over those of his more recent predecessors.

Governor Collins is a warm and friendly man. He is easy to approach, easy to talk to. He has given the office of Governor the dignity it has not had during the regimes of Fuller Warren and Charley Johns. He has refused to be stampeded by the wild demands of extremists in the race question. His efforts to put Florida on the map in the industrial North and to advertise our state as a tourist mecca have produced real results.

Governor Collins this year, as when he won election as Governor, conducted a clean, progressive, aggressive campaign. He has made no wild and desperate claims as have two of his leading opponents. . . .

We fail to see how anyone can seriously consider Sumter Lowry as a Governor of Florida. He is campaigning on a single issue—racial segregation, and it dominates his entire campaign and thinking. In short, he's a one-issue candidate, and represents the radical wing of the anti-integrationists at that. His is not the cool head we need in these troublesome times; he simply does not have the stature required for the man to lead Florida in the crucial years ahead.

Farris Bryant is a different man entirely—a very able legislator, and well liked and respected in his section of the state. We feel that he probably would make a good Governor, but he does not measure up to LeRoy Collins as the executive of a great state.

Fuller Warren? We had Fuller for four years and that's enough. . . .

We have a Governor now, in all senses of the word. Let's keep him.

## Collins: The Logical Choice

**PLANT CITY COURIER**

In any election, voters should take a careful look at the qualifications of every candidate and then vote for the man best qualified for the post. But, many persons, of course, let emotion rather than reason be the determining factor in their choice of a candidate.

In the Governor's race, the incumbent, LeRoy

# *Letters to The Tribune*

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## Collins' Rivals Hope The Voters Will Be Suckers

TAMPA — The 'guesser' and 'promiser' candidates for Governor, (and some minor offices) will be awfully sunk when they find their theories about defying the Supreme Court ruling on segregation are nonsense.

Governor Collins is going about arriving at a solution sensibly. Personally, I do not favor integration.

It is evident that only Congress can take action to set aside or hold in abeyance the court ruling, so Collins' procedure is substantial, definite and assuring. The others offer nothing but criticism and hokum—in hopes you and I will prove to be suckers. See it?

I am a native "Cracker" and I am desirous of seeing this serious matter handled sanely and honorably and to the credit of Florida citizenship.

CHAS. BARDIN, SR.

## No More Warren

TAMPA — During June, 1955, while I was superintending installation of part of the equipment for the concession buildings on Sunshine Skyway, Alfred McKethan approached an employe of the State Road Department while the employe was on the job and asked him how he was getting along, to which he replied that he was doing all right. Mr. McKethan then told him to do his job, keep his mouth shut and he, McKethan and Fuller Warren would be back in office beginning January 1957.

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Perhaps I need not remind most Floridians that, for 25 years, in books, magazines and newspapers —on radio networks and TV shows, I've shouted praises of Florida. In our local papers, too, I've often pointed out our blunders and thus helped to correct some of them.

I am a transplanted Yankee—a merely "naturalized" Cracker.

But nobody is prouder of our state and not many Floridians have a better knowledge of it; or of why we prosper here now, or of what brings people to Florida to live or to take vacations. For myriads of Americans first got the Florida urge because of what I have written or said.

I note this, not to blow my own horn, but to give weight to my support of LeRoy Collins for Governor. His State Land Use and Control Commission is exactly what we need and should keep to make sure that our all-too-easily destroyed natural resources —the very things that brought most of us here—will not be exploited and ruined.

His realization of the meaning of atomic power to Florida's industrial future will be many times more important to us, our children and our fortunes than was Henry Flagler's railroad to the old timers.

As you have seen, Collins' stature as a man, his vision as a Governor, and his practical abilities have brought him, in a brief time, such national attention as few state Governors are ever given. I know him. I feel his concept of Florida's future is as wonderful — and attainable — as the concepts I had a quarter of a century ago, which discouraged men laughed at—and you and I have realized here.

I wish I could talk to my co-Floridians man-by-man and woman-by-woman, because I think I could convince them all that we are lucky to have a chance to vote for such a remarkable man as LeRoy Collins for Governor.

PHILIP WYLIE

**Mr. Wylie is the distinguished author who has written many articles about Florida and many fiction stories with a Florida setting.—Editor.**

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TAMPA.—Sumter Lowry is the man we need for Governor. He is a true and loyal Southerner and a man of the highest caliber and one who is not afraid to speak out and to fight the serious and deplorable issue of segregation.

Drive through the colored slums of our cities and then decide whether you would like to have your child go to a mixed school and use the same facilities. We can ill afford to demoralize our children to elevate the colored race. Integration would ultimately destroy the white race or reduce it to a mongrel state.

Governor Collins is a cheap politician who would sell out our children and state for the Negro vote and play in the hands of the

death sentence of Walter Lee Irvin (Negro rapist) to life imprisonment.

Don't be fooled. Big industries are not seeking Mr. Collins' advice or waiting for him to invite them here, as he would like for us to believe.

Governor Collins is flying around and calling himself a great salesman and no doubt he would make a better salesman than a Governor. Sumter Lowry is a successful business man and has every reason to be as interested in the progress of our state as Governor Collins. He is not an aspiring politician and has only an unselfish interest in making our state a safe and decent place for our children to live, work and play.

## Lowry Got ... Fustest Wi... The Mostes...

DUNEDIN—It ... Mr. Sumter Lowr... firstest with the ... race for the Dem... tion for Governo... fought a brave fig... with the reappor... but it seems that ... issue blew his ha... he was caught wit...

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We need more men like Sumter Lowry in government, who has the courage to stand up and fight

## Lowry Got There Fustest With The Mostest

DUNEDIN—It would seem that Mr. Sumter Lowry has got there firstest with the mostest in this race for the Democratic nomination for Governor. Mr. Collins fought a brave fight to make hay with the reapportionment issue, but it seems that the segregation issue blew his haystack away and he was caught with his kite down.

Politics, like warfare, today is a mobile operation and those leaders who depend on winning today's battle with yesterday's weapons are most likely to wake up after the fight is over wondering how the enemy maneuvered to bypass their positions and leave them impotent in isolation.

As a political leader Mr. Collins would appear inept to say the least, but this campaign will probably condition him to the point that he will at least know where to look for his opposition the next time he runs.

Let no one deny the political acumen and courage of Mr. Lowry. He will make a fine rallying point for the fight to maintain segregation and states' rights when he becomes our next Governor.

TOBACCO BILL

## Bryant's Out

NOKOMIS—Next to Governor Collins the only other candidate in the race who on his record is qualified in experience is Farris Bryant.

The true test of any man is how he reacts and the decisions he makes in a crisis. Farris Bryant permanently disqualified himself as a candidate for Governor for all of the people of Florida when at the last session of the Legislature he sold the future of Florida down the river in a compromise with the North Florida Pork Chop Gang.

This crisis was presented to him when he had to make a decision between the future welfare of the state and the support of the North Florida group in his

## Why Pick Alger's Bones?

HISS

TAMPA — Either your knowledge of the Alger Hiss case far surpasses my own or we see things in a completely different light for I find your editorial April 28 concerning his visit to a Princeton University debating club to be a disgrace to the professed high standards of American newspapers.

By necessity the newspaper business begets in its masters a pride dangerously approaching vanity. Unaccustomed to the views of others you become masters unto yourselves and, as petite Gods, seek to control the thoughts of your readers through editorials, news stories and comments written without regard to the moral or traditional background of this nation.

As I said above, your view of this situation may be more accurate than mine because of your greater knowledge. I had thought Mr. Hiss was convicted of perjury before a Senate committee in denying that he was or had been a member of the Communist Party. Membership in the party had not been a crime until something recently although any attempt to destroy the country through anything save democratic process is morally wrong. Or should I say legally?

Any person under indictment for any crime has as his own personal duty the necessity of taking the position that he is innocent of the charge. It is upon this premise that our courts are based since it is for the state to prove the guilt and the accused is innocent until the state has proved, beyond the shadow of a doubt, that he is not.

In Mr. Hiss's case I assume, without any proof, that he stated he was innocent of the perjury charge until the court found him guilty. I would also assume that he states that he is innocent of attempting to overthrow the government, of any crime of espionage, or anything of the ilk since these charges have not been proved in courts of law.

If any evidence exists to prove him guilty of these charges then they should be presented in a court of law—if they do exist then you should crusade for the necessary legal and moral proof or be quiet.

Far from so many others in ... those who have used their confessed crimes to gain notoriety or material reward, Mr. Hiss has constantly acted in good faith and if I may say it, in good taste. His behavior throughout the trial period, the prison term, and now has been of such a nature as to shame those like you who must now pick the very meat from his bones.

As for his invitation to speak before a university group there is much to say in its behalf. As a member of the various American-Russian conferences throughout the war he could offer a very interesting insight into that period and present dealings with the Russians. Even as a man proven, at least, to be a member of the Communist Party, he could offer some vibrant insights into his own thoughts on the subject of Russia and the cold war.

THOMAS JEROME KAK.

**Hiss was convicted of lying when he denied giving State Department secrets to a Communist spy ring. The jury thus, in effect, held him guilty of espionage. He could not be prosecuted on that charge because of the statute of limitations. We see no more logic in a debating club inviting Hiss to talk about Geneva than in a banking class inviting a convicted embezzler to discuss the principles of finance.—Editor.**

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We have a Governor now, in all senses of the word. Let's keep him.

## Collins: The Logical Choice

**PLANT CITY COURIER**

In any election, voters should take a careful look at the qualifications of every candidate and then vote for the man best qualified for the post. But, many persons, of course, let emotion rather than reason be the determining factor in their choice of a candidate.

In the Governor's race, the incumbent, LeRoy Collins, appears to be the best qualified on the basis of past record, performance in public office, ability and integrity.

Of the other three top contenders, one has been running on a strictly one-plank platform that appeals primarily to emotions rather than reason.

Another candidate, long noted for his emotion-stirring oratory, has based his campaign on promises such as higher homestead exemption without additional taxes, plus attacks on the incumbent.

The third candidate, well qualified in many respects, has emphasized in his campaign in the last few weeks little more than attacks on Governor Collins and other candidates in the race.

On the basis of reason rather than emotion and on the basis of qualifications for the office, LeRoy Collins appears to be the only logical choice for Governor.

## Collins Is Our Man

**CITRUS COUNTY CHRONICLE**
**(Inverness)**

This is by way of expressing our conviction that of the four serious contenders for the governorship LeRoy Collins is the best qualified to lead the state for the next four years.

When he ran in 1954 for the unexpired term of the late Dan McCarty, this paper said:

"Collins is progressive in the best Democratic tradition. He has vision and ability. It is our opinion that, he will restore to the office of Governor the dignity, the honesty, the human understanding and the forthright and able leadership that are so sorely needed."

He has done all those things. There has been no hint of scandal in his administration, no political cronyism, no awarding of fat state contracts to favored pals, no paying off of political debts with the taxpayers' funds.

We don't have to go back many years to find occupants of the Governor's mansion who did just that.

To the great majority of Florida people—and to a surprising number of people outside the state—the honesty, the ability and the progressive administration of LeRoy Collins have reinforced their faith in popular government. . . .

## What Scares Roy's Foes

**DAYTONA BEACH JOURNAL**

. . . Each of Collins' three opponents is attacking

ment while the employe was on the job and asked him how he was getting along, to which he replied that he was doing all right. Mr. McKethan then told him to do his job, keep his mouth shut and he, McKethan and Fuller Warren would be back in office beginning January 1957.

Of course, almost everyone knows that Fuller made all his plans for this present campaign before he vacated the Governor's chair.

I just can't see the voters of Florida returning Fuller to this most important job, as his activities while he was Governor contained so many bees in his bonnet.

I sincerely hope that the voters and LeRoy Collins will put so many more bees in his bonnet in the coming election that we will never have to suffer through another of his muddy campaigns.

Another campaign rumor hatched this week is for Lowry to give Fuller the first vacancy on the Supreme Court if Fuller is not elected Governor.

EX-POLITICO.

## Prediction: Collins

TAMPA—Early in 1948 I predicted that Harry S. Truman would be renominated for President and people smiled. Later I suggested that he would be re-elected and people were really amused.

In the last election I named Mr. Eisenhower but that, of course, was comparatively easy.

Now I am forecasting that Governor Collins in the coming election will register more votes than his three rivals combined.

In honoring Governor Collins the people will bring honor on themselves.

PROPHET.

## Remember The Tax!

TAMPA — I note somebody called Fuller Warren "Cry Baby Warren." I think "Fraidy Cat Warren" would be better. He was so afraid when Brailey Odham declared he would go all out for LeRoy Collins that he wanted to take away Mr. Odham's right of free speech!

We have had "Remember the Alamo!" and "Remember the Maine!". Now let voters next Tuesday "Remember the Sales Tax!"

COLLINS FRIEND

one who is not afraid to speak out and to fight the serious and deplorable issue of segregation.

Drive through the colored slums of our cities and then decide whether you would like to have your child go to a mixed school and use the same facilities. We can ill afford to demoralize our children to elevate the colored race. Integration would ultimately destroy the white race or reduce it to a mongrel state.

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We need more men like Sumter Lowry in government, who has the courage to stand up and fight for our rights.

L. M. S.

## 'Ray For Lowry! Elect Collins

TAMPA—I'm afraid you folks at The Tribune don't appreciate fully all that Sumter Lowry means to our beloved Sunshine State. You join the misguided reactionaries who cast aspersions at this great political figure; who fail to understand his deep intellect and fortitude.

Mr. Lowry has stated that he does not advocate violence with regard to the segregation issue. He merely says ". . . The only time we are going to have violence is when this man Collins puts white children and colored children in the public schools together." One cannot help but admire the intellectual honesty of such a statement, and the very high degree of courage which underscores it. This is a direct appeal to our noblest Christian instincts.

You see, Mr. Lowry is forthright enough to assume that Governor Collins will not hesitate to desegregate. Mr. Lowry therefore is more than a crusading politician. He is a clairvoyant, a brilliant prophet whose amazing insight reveals the secrets of the future.

As to what type or measure of violence "we are going to have," I cannot guess. But we may be sure it will be righteous, accompanied perhaps by the singing of "Onward Christian Soldiers." Yes, intelligent Floridians will march together, shoulder-to-shoulder, with Mr. Lowry leading the citizens' army. In the spirit of true valor, fiery crosses will light the way. Because you are obviously blind to Mr. Lowry's merit, you will term this a "mob." You will say that Mr. Lowry is inciting base emotions, shaping them into barbaric actions.

The little white and colored children may not understand what it's all about, but Mr. Lowry will instruct them. He will indoctrinate their thoughts and feelings, just as he did when he used his 8-year-old daughter as an example before the multitudes, claiming that he would fight for her. (How it pains me to see you malign this great and noble champion!).

As a sidelight, let me reflect briefly on the incident wherein Mr. Lowry's campaign manager spit tobacco juice on the floor of a TV studio. Here indeed was a shining instance of courageous defiance. Yet you belittled this tobacco-spitting titan of intellect. Have you no sense of shame?

In conclusion let me submit that it is good to have Sumter Lowry on the political scene so that Florida can go on record as giving dirty politics the heave-ho by voting for, and electing, LeRoy Collins!

CARLTON BORTELL

## Tobacco Juice: A Low Editorial

TAMPA—Your editorial, Tobacco Juice on the Floor (April 26) is surely beneath a paper of any size. You are taking advantage of your position.

It is just gossip of the common

was a pretty good man but with you and so much money behind him, I now wonder. Those debts will have to be paid somehow.

ESTHER CHRISTEN

NOKOMIS—Next to Governor Collins the only other candidate in the race who on his record is qualified in experience is Farris Bryant.

The true test of any man is how he reacts and the decisions he makes in a crisis. Farris Bryant permanently disqualified himself as a candidate for Governor for all of the people of F ida when at the last session the Legislature he sold the fut of Florida down the river i compromise with the North F. ida Pork Chop Gang.

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When a man places his p sonal career and ambitions ahe of the general welfare of t state he is not qualified now at any time in the future to Governor, even though he has long satisfactory record in t Legislature and his personal li and background have been pol ically acceptable.

SIC SEMPER TYRANNUS

## Facts On Douglas

NAPLES—It could have bee pointed out in your editorial the State Supreme Court th Zach H. Douglas, the candida opposing Stephen O'Connell (wh has less than a year's judici experience to the best of m knowledge) is more than "a Jack sonville lawyer who specializes i criminal practice and has had n judicial experience."

Douglas is also an outstandin attorney and civic worker. Doug las has also worked in govern ment as a city attorney. He i also a native of Florida and als attended the University of Flor ida. In addition Douglas ha served as vice president of th Florida Bar and has had wel nigh on to 30 years' experience in city, county, state and federa courtrooms. I think O'Connell ha practiced approximately 15 years

I know you, a reputable news paper, must believe as I that primary function of a paper i to present the full facts so tha we the people can make our own decision and make it intelligently. I cannot believe you know

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am desirous of seeing this serious matter handled sanely and honorably and to the credit of Florida citizenship.

CHAS. BARDIN, SR.

## No More Warren

TAMPA — During June, 1955, while I was superintending installation of part of the equipment for the concession buildings on Sunshine Skyway, Alfred McKethan approached an employe of the State Road Department while the employe was on the job and asked him how he was getting along, to which he replied that he was doing all right. Mr. McKethan then told him to do his job, keep his mouth shut and he, McKethan and Fuller Warren would be back in office beginning January 1957.

Of course, almost everyone knows that Fuller made all his plans for this present campaign before he vacated the Governor's chair.

I just can't see the voters of Florida returning Fuller to this most important job, as his activities while he was Governor contained so many bees in his bonnet.

I sincerely hope that the voters and LeRoy Collins will put so many more bees in his bonnet in the coming election that we will never have to suffer through another of his muddy campaigns.

Another campaign rumor hatched this week is for Lowry to give Fuller the first vacancy on the Supreme Court if Fuller is not elected Governor.

EX-POLITICO.

## Prediction: Collins

TAMPA—Early in 1948 I predicted that Harry S. Truman would be renominated for President and people smiled. Later I suggested that he would be reelected and people were really amused.

In the last election I named Mr. Eisenhower but that, of course, was comparatively easy.

Now I am forecasting that Governor Collins in the coming election will register more votes than his three rivals combined.

In honoring Governor Collins the people will bring honor on themselves.

PROPHET.

## Remember The Tax!

what we need and should keep to make sure that our all-too-easily destroyed natural resources—the very things that brought most of us here—will not be exploited and ruined.

His realization of the meaning

**Mr. Wylie is the distinguished author who has written many articles about Florida and many fiction stories with a Florida setting.—Editor.**

## Lowry's The Man For Governor

TAMPA.—Sumter Lowry is the man we need for Governor. He is a true and loyal Southerner and a man of the highest caliber and one who is not afraid to speak out and to fight the serious and deplorable issue of segregation.

Drive through the colored slums of our cities and then decide whether you would like to have your child go to a mixed school and use the same facilities. We can ill afford to demoralize our children to elevate the colored race. Integration would ultimately destroy the white race or reduce it to a mongrel state.

Governor Collins is a cheap politician who would sell out our children and state for the Negro vote and play in the hands of the NAACP. He is a dangerous man to have in office after appointing a Negro as assistant state attorney at Miami and commuting the death sentence of Walter Lee Irvin (Negro rapist) to life imprisonment.

Don't be fooled. Big industries are not seeking Mr. Collins' advice or waiting for him to invite them here, as he would like for us to believe.

Governor Collins is flying around and calling himself a great salesman and no doubt he would make a better salesman than a Governor. Sumter Lowry is a successful business man and has every reason to be as interested in the progress of our state as Governor Collins. He is not an aspiring politician and has only an unselfish interest in making our state a safe and decent place for our children to live, work and play.

We need more men like Sumter Lowry in government, who has the courage to stand up and fight for our rights. L. M. S.

## 'Ray For Lowry! Elect Collins

TAMPA—I'm afraid you folks at The Tribune don't appreciate fully all that Sumter Lowry means to our beloved Sunshine State. You join the misguided reactionaries who cast aspersions at this great political figure; who fail to understand his deep intellect and fortitude.

Mr. Lowry has stated that he does not advocate violence with regard to the segregation issue. He merely says ". . . The only time we are going to have violence is when this man Collins puts white children and colored children in the public schools together." One cannot help but admire the intellectual honesty of such a statement, and the very high degree of courage which underscores it. This is a direct appeal to our noblest Christian instincts.

You see, Mr. Lowry is forthright enough to assume that Governor Collins will not hesitate to desegregate. Mr. Lowry therefore is more than a crusading politician. He is a clairvoyant, a brilliant prophet whose amazing insight reveals the secrets of the future.

As to what type or measure of violence "we are going to have," march together, shoulder-to-shoulder, with Mr. Lowry leading the citizens' army. In the spirit of true valor, fiery crosses will light the way. Because you are obviously blind to Mr. Lowry's merit, you will term this a "mob." You will say that Mr. Lowry is inciting base emotions, shaping them into barbaric actions.

The little white and colored children may not understand what it's all about, but Mr. Lowry will instruct them. He will indoctrinate their thoughts and feelings, just as he did when he used his 8-year-old daughter as an example before the multitudes, claiming that he would fight for her. (How it pains me to see you malign this great and noble champion!).

As a sidelight, let me reflect briefly on the incident wherein Mr. Lowry's campaign manager spit tobacco juice on the floor of a TV studio. Here indeed was a shining instance of courageous defiance. Yet you belittled this tobacco-spitting titan of intellect. Have you no sense of shame?

In conclusion let me submit that it is good to have Sumter Lowry on the political scene so

point that he will at least know where to look for his opposition the next time he runs.

Let no one deny the political acumen and courage of Mr. Lowry. He will make a fine rallying point for the fight to maintain segregation and states' rights when he becomes our next Governor. TOBACCO BILL

## Bryant's Out

NOKOMIS—Next to Governor Collins the only other candidate in the race who on his record is qualified in experience is Farris Bryant.

The true test of any man is how he reacts and the decisions he makes in a crisis. Farris Bryant permanently disqualified himself as a candidate for Governor for all of the people of Florida when at the last session of the Legislature he sold the future of Florida down the river in a compromise with the North Florida Pork Chop Gang.

This crisis was presented to him when he had to make a decision between the future welfare of the state and the support of the North Florida group in his race for Governor. When he decided to come out for the 67-senator program of the Pork Chop Gang, which program he had been actively fighting, he decided that his personal political career was more important than the future welfare of Florida.

When a man places his personal career and ambitions ahead of the general welfare of the state he is not qualified now or at any time in the future to be Governor, even though he has a long satisfactory record in the Legislature and his personal life and background have been politically acceptable.

SIC SEMPER TYRANNUS

## Facts On Douglas

NAPLES—It could have been pointed out in your editorial re the State Supreme Court that Zach H. Douglas, the candidate opposing Stephen O'Connell (who has less than a year's judicial experience to the best of my knowledge) is more than "a Jacksonville lawyer who specializes in criminal practice and has had no judicial experience."

Douglas is also an outstanding attorney and civic worker. Douglas has also worked in government as a city attorney. He is also a native of Florida and also attended the University of Flor- Douglas has

party had not been a crime until something recently although any attempt to destroy the country through anything save democratic process is morally wrong. Or should I say legally?

Any person under indictment for any crime has as his own personal duty the necessity of taking the position that he is innocent of the charge. It is upon this premise that our courts are based since it is for the state to prove the guilt and the accused is innocent until the state has proved, beyond the shadow of a doubt, that he is not.

In Mr. Hiss's case I assume, without any proof, that he stated he was innocent of the perjury charge until the court found him guilty. I would also assume that he states that he is innocent of attempting to overthrow the government, of any crime of espionage, or anything of the ilk since these charges have not been proved in courts of law.

If any evidence exists to prove him guilty of these charges then they should be presented in a court of law—if they do exist then you should crusade for the necessary legal and moral proof or be quiet.

Far from so many others in this unhappy time, differing from constantly acted in good faith and if I may say it, in good taste. His behavior throughout the trial period, the prison term, and now has been of such a nature as to shame those like you who must now pick the very meat from his bones.

As for his invitation to speak before a university group there is much to say in its behalf. As a member of the various American-Russian conferences throughout the war he could offer a very interesting insight into that period and present dealings with the Russians. Even as a man proven, at least, to be a member of the Communist Party, he could offer some vibrant insights into his own thoughts on the subject of Russia and the cold war.

THOMAS JEROME KAK.

**Hiss was convicted of lying when he denied giving State Department secrets to a Communist spy ring. The jury thus, in effect, held him guilty of espionage. He could not be prosecuted on that charge because of the statute of limitations. We see no more logic in a debating club inviting Hiss to talk about Geneva than in a banking class inviting a convicted embezzler to discuss the principles of finance.—Editor.**

## They Can't Discredit Collins

TAMPA—It is interesting to observe the path of argument being conducted by the candidates for Governor in the closing weeks of the campaign, particularly the tactics being employed by Sumter L. Lowry in the last few days.

In a recent pamphlet mailed to many registered voters, Lowry with his insinuations professed to make Governor Collins a friend of the NAACP and a "passenger on the Moscow train." This is the pattern of a desperate candidate who, not having legitimate arguments, must resort to a campaign of branding an individual as a fellow-traveler for the Communists.

No one can deny the fact that segregation has become a political issue. It must be faced with firm but cool heads, without inciting the people to disorder and anarchy, the weapons and tactics employed by the Communist Party for creating disunity and hatred as manifested by some of the candidates.

But segregation is not the only issue. There are other vital issues being ignored by several of the candidates which will determine the growth of Florida politically and economically. Toward that goal Collins has ably demonstated his ability as a statesman and a salesman for the state.

Collins has brought to Florida respect, integrity and, more important, has made many tourists aware of Florida's industrial potentialities; a means of publicity entirely different from the usual palm trees and bathing beauties which in the past appeared in many magazines over the country.

Collins, with his campaign for more industries for Florida has put the state in the light of opportunity and growth in the eyes of many people who up to now considered Florida as only a playground state. It will indeed take more than cheap politics to discredit the work of Governor Collins. The record is there. To ignore it is ignorance, to misrepresent it by false accusations is foolish, and shows lack of faith in the intelligence of Florida's voters. JOE MALDONADO

## Wrong Governor Could Ruin State

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speech.

## What Scares Roy's Foes

**DAYTONA BEACH JOURNAL**

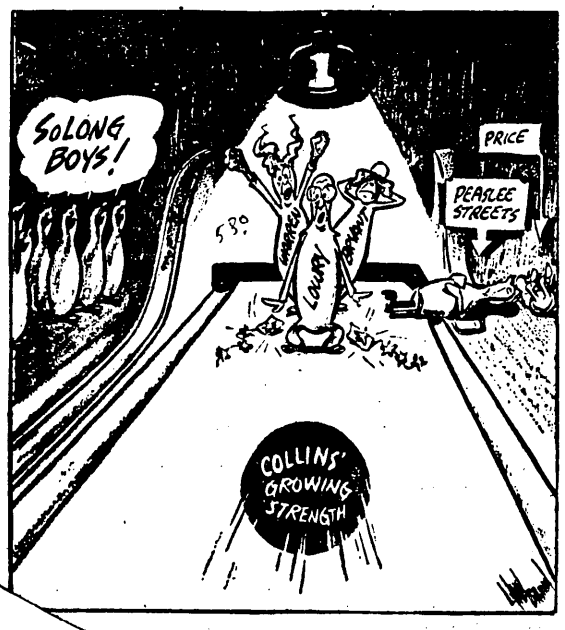
. . . Each of Collins' three opponents is attacking the Governor and thereby confessing that he is the strongest candidate. Farris Bryant, Fuller Warren and Sumter Lowry are hoping to get into a second race with the Governor.

The fury of their onslaughts reflects their fear that Collins stands a good chance of polling a majority of all the votes in the first primary next Tuesday. In such an event there wouldn't be a runoff and Collins would be assured of a full term.

Voters should take note of these things when they read, listen to or hear about what this or that candidate says about Collins. Just keep in mind these fellows are so scared Collins will butt them out of a runoff that they're growing desperate. . . .

Short-sighted professional office seekers are prone to underrate the intelligence of the voters. Otherwise they wouldn't waste their time and that of Florida voters by indulging in the puny and silly criticisms they're hurling at Collins and his record. The Governor's public service stands out in the glare of the full light for all to see. Those who have inspected it impartially and without a prejudiced eye are proud of Collins and the fine record he has written in the Legislature and the Governor's office. . . .

## Fireball In The No. 1 Alley




—Orlando Sentinel

Tuesday "Remember the Sales Tax!"

COLLINS FRIEND

Letters must bear the writer's signed (in ink or pencil) name and street address. On specific request, name will be withheld from publication. Short letters will be given preference; The Tribune reserves the right to shorten all letters to meet space requirements. Letters must be written exclusively to The Tribune Copies of letters directed to someone else are not acceptable.

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It is just gossip of the common kind. Gossip has caused more heartaches and trouble than anything I know of.

You say this trivial thing illustrates the level to which the campaign for Florida's highest office has sunk. Your tobacco juice editorial shows how far The Tribune's editorial writers have sunk.

Maybe your readers should know the Tampa Tribune is owned by the Chicago Tribune. A lot of people I have talked to don't know it.

I always thought Mr. Collins will have to be paid somehow.

ESTHER CHRISTEN

**To answer Reader Christen:**

**1. The statement that Sumter Lowry's state campaign manager, Joe Jenkins, spat tobacco juice on the floor of a TV studio at Miami is not gossip. A Tribune staff writer was there when it happened.**

**2. It is not surprising that a lot of the people "don't know the Tampa Tribune is owned by the Chicago Tribune." We don't know it, either. This newspaper never has had any connection whatever with the Chicago Tribune.**

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## Why Change?

LAKELAND — LeRoy Collins has done more to promote industry and racial understanding than any Governor Florida ever had.

He is also an honorable family man and understands the problems of our young people, a very important attribute. Why change?

MRS. F. E. REANEY

# News Report Unfair To Retired Warden

WINTER HAVEN.—Please accept this preface to the following remarks: I am an avid reader of The Tribune, have always considered yours the best paper available in the Southeast, and have generally agreed with your editorial comments.

I do sincerely believe, however, that your paper reached its absolute low last week in the article on front page, headed by blaring words, and I quote: "State Auditor Raps Retired Prison Head, etc." This is clearly a case of print anything that will sell papers.

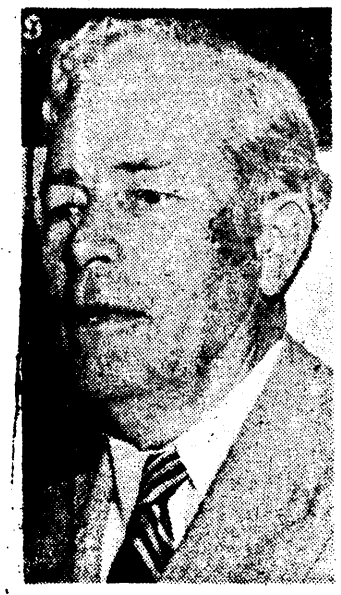
You have attacked and slandered a man, Mr. L. F. Chapman, now retired after some 25 years of excellent, honest and efficient service to this state, at the age of over 70 years young. There is no indication in the article that an attempt was made by your reporter to determine from Mr. Chapman or the prison the reasons for his actions.

At the very end of the article, where most people have quit reading already, you do state that the auditor complimented Mr. Chapman on the reducing of the cost per man, and the increase in profit shown by the canteen. There is no acknowledgment of the fact that the state prison at Raiford is designed, equipped and prepared to handle a load capacity of 1600 prisoners, but for several years now there has been considerably more than 2000 prisoners there, with the number now close to 2400 prisoners.

In all fairness, could you not tell your readers that Mr. Chapman was considered by other penal heads throughout the nation as a real warden's warden, and truly one of the outstanding prison superintendents in the country? Also, that he received recognition several years ago from our Federal Government for his many innovations and was called to Washington for consultation with heads of federal institutions? Could you not tell your readers that despite the greatly overcrowded conditions prevalent at Raiford, we have yet to experience any of the riots that are so common at other penal institutions throughout the country?

Maybe the article you printed is the way to sell papers, but it certainly isn't the way to win friends and enhance your own reputation as a fair, clean newspaper. If that type article is considered good reporting, then I am the worst judge in the world. The only criticism that I have ever heard of The Tribune is that it is a scandal sheet, and this article leaves me little grounds on which to defend your reputation.

The real truth is that Mr. Chapman stands head and shoulders above the vast majority of our public servants, and rather than trying to destroy and slander a reputation that he spent some 25



CHAPMAN

years building, you should encourage others to emulate his actions as a public servant.

Did you know that Mr. Chapman has made hundreds of speeches before civic and church groups throughout the state and nation, striving to arouse in the lackadaisical public a desire to do something about the rising crime rate, and most of all, to give the youth of this country the leadership necessary to steer them on the proper road to a clean, moral life. Let me assure you that you have not influenced the people who know Mr. Chapman, and know the conditions at our state prison at Raiford.

If Mr. Raker, your reporter, wants to write a real article, with news value, and something constructive rather than destructive, let him do a feature article on Mr. Chapman, covering his 25 years' experience as prison head, and with great emphasis being placed on his philosophy relative to prevention of crime and rehabilitation of criminals. You would then be doing the public a distinct service, and I firmly believe, sell more papers in the long run.

HAROLD GEORGE.

**We regret that Mr. George feels The Tribune news report was unfair. We are well aware of Mr. Chapman's fine record as a prison administrator. We commented on it editorially at the time of his retirement. Moreover, Tribune Staff Writer Paul Wilder did a series of articles based on Mr. Chapman's experience and ideas last November. We could not, however, ignore the official criticism contained in the auditor's report. And, incidentally, the news article on the auditor's report mentioned the good findings in the second paragraph, not at the end.—Editor.**

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## ...by's Foes

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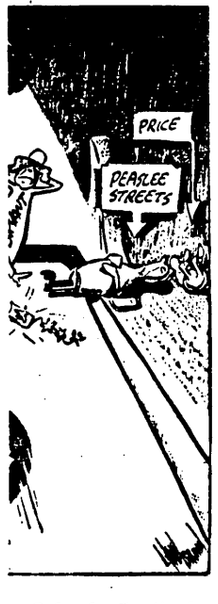


—Orlando Sentinel

...free speech.

We have had "Remember the Alamo!" and "Remember the Maine!". Now let voters next Tuesday "Remember the Sales Tax!"

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TAMPA—Your editorial, Tobacco Juice on the Floor (April 26) is surely beneath a paper of any size. You are taking advantage of your position.

It is just gossip of the common kind. Gossip has caused more heartaches and trouble than anything I know of.

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...gation issue.

I am copying a paragraph from a statement issued by Charley Johns, that was in The Tribune on April 26 . . . "Johns said that Warren vetoed a section of the 1951 appropriation bill which would cut off funds from any state school which integrated."

Now if Lowry is elected Governor, he may try his best to have some law or laws passed to circumvent the government's integration law. If he should succeed in passing some such law, what is to prevent Congress from passing a similar one to withhold all funds from any state that passes a law or laws with the intent of preventing the workings of the segregation law? Con...segregation laws, just what would Mr. Lowry do? Would he organize an army to march into Washington and demand his rights, or just plain crawfish? Or would he try to get Florida to secede?

If the FHA funds were stopped for a month or two, all building operations would stop, and most of the builders would be broke.

I think the people of Florida should be very careful whom they choose for Governor. We appear to be sitting on a powder keg and the wrong sort of Governor could easily set it off. There are a lot of ways our present prosperity could blow up overnight. So it behooves all of us to do a little straight thinking.

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## Don't Stop Florida's Progress!

TAMPA—I have never written to The Tribune before but this time I just can't keep silent.

A reader recently wrote to The Tribune in praise of Sumter Lowry, referring to him as "a fine Christian gentleman, etc."

Now I have always been led to believe that a Christian is a person who not only believes in Christ but obeys his teachings. In John 13:25 we are told: "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another."

Mr. Lowry has plainly shown us that he has nothing but hatred in his heart for the Negroes. He has also indicated he has nothing but segregation in his head when he states "Segregation is the ONLY issue."

LeRoy Collins has promised to do all he can to maintain segregation on a peaceful basis, while striving for equal rights and educational opportunities for colored people. However, he realizes there are many more issues involved in governing the state. He will not drop everything to engage in senseless fights over this one issue.

We are all proud of Florida's progress. Why should we stop that progress for four years while a hotheaded, confused Governor rants and raves in Tallahassee, doing nothing but stirring up strife and hate among the people of this state?

Let's all make a special effort to get to the polls Tuesday and elect LeRoy Collins for another four years. LILLIAN WHITE

## Bryant's Best For Governor

TAMPA — The only candidate for Governor whose legislative record squares fully with his public statements during vote-getting time, is Farris Bryant.

Governor Collins and Fuller Warren have failed us in many instances, for example—Warren repeatedly promised you and me he would veto the sales tax, but he wound up advocating it.

Governor Collins, as a little county legislator and little-county Governor, promised two years ago to do all in his power to give South Florida more voice (fair reapportionment) in the Legislature. What did he do? The same course he followed in the Legislature since 1935 saw to it that South Florida, where we pay over 75 per cent of the state taxes, continues to be the minority in the Legislature.

Why should we elect a Governor whose record is made up of broken promises? The only chance we have to get fair reapportionment in the Legislature is with Farris Bryant as Governor. At least his record up to date fails to disclose any performance contrary to election promises.

RAYMOND SHELDON

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HAYMAN Jewelry Co

SEE US FOR

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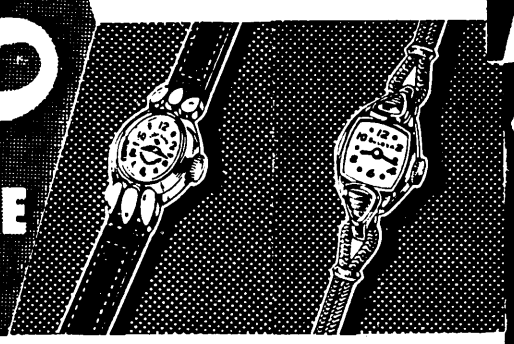
MAY 13th IS MOTHER'S DAY

GET UP TO $25 TRADE IN

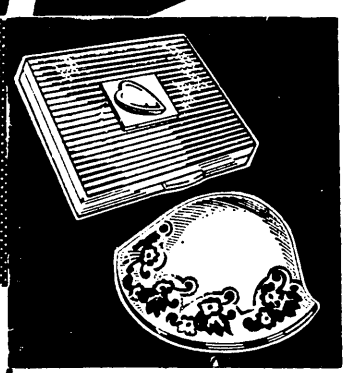
TRADE 'N' Save



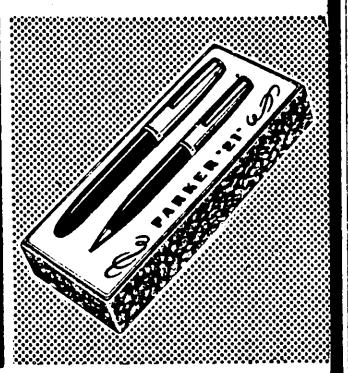
EASY TERMS

LADY ELGIN— 21 Jewels $85.00 $2.00 WEEK

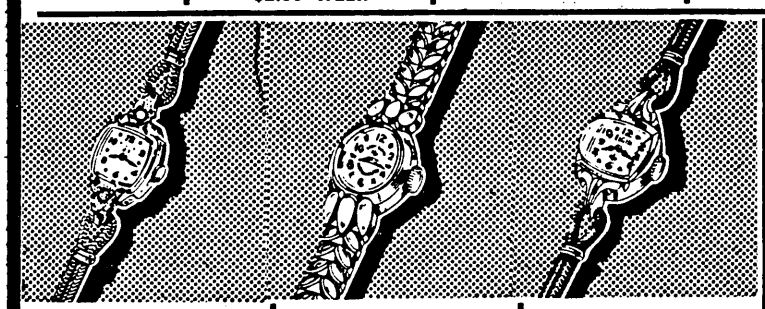
BULOVA—17 Jewels $29.75 $1.00 WEEK



Famous Make COMPACTS Values to $5 $2.95




PARKER "21" PEN SET Was $9.70 $7.95



BULOVA— 2 Diamonds $59.50

LADY ELGIN— 21 Jewels $95.00

ELGIN—17 Jewels $39.75

FREE GIFT FOR MOTHER WITH PURCHASE OF $10.00 OR MORE

Matched 14k Gold Bands $19.95



# 800,000 Expected To Vote C

(Continued from Page 1)

tacks upon his major opponents and on the U. S. Supreme Court.

The two other candidates, Peaslee Streets, Lake Park constable, and W. B. Price, Jacksonville used car salesman, have done comparatively little campaigning.

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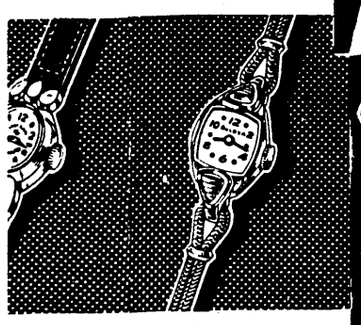

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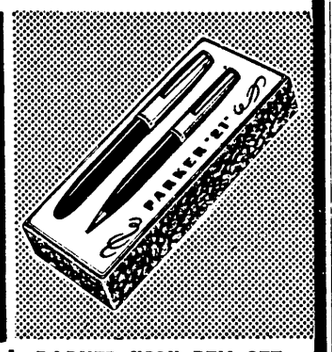


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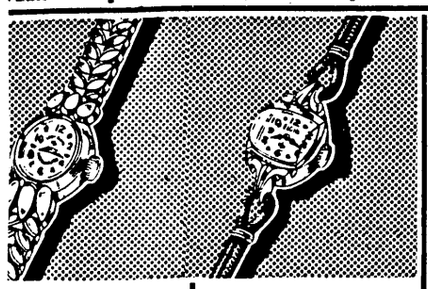

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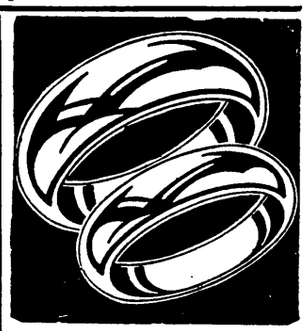

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# 800,000 Expected To Vote On Tuesday

(Continued from Page 1)

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Candidates must obtain a clear majority next Tuesday in order to win in the first primary. The two top candidates battle it out in the runoff May 29 if there isn't a majority.

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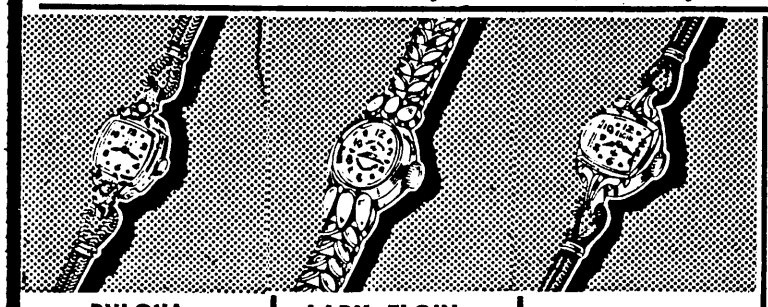

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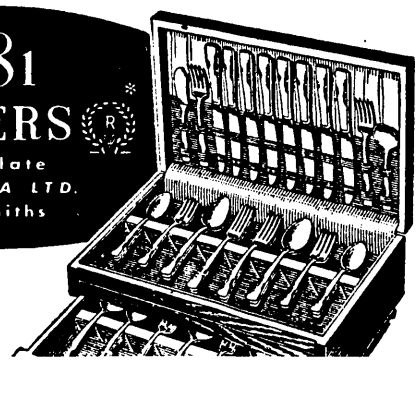

52 Pc. Service


Cafter of Lakeland, Leff Mable of Wauchula and David B. Higginbottom of Babson Park.

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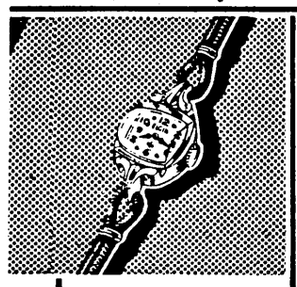

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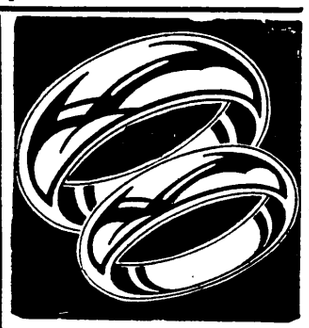

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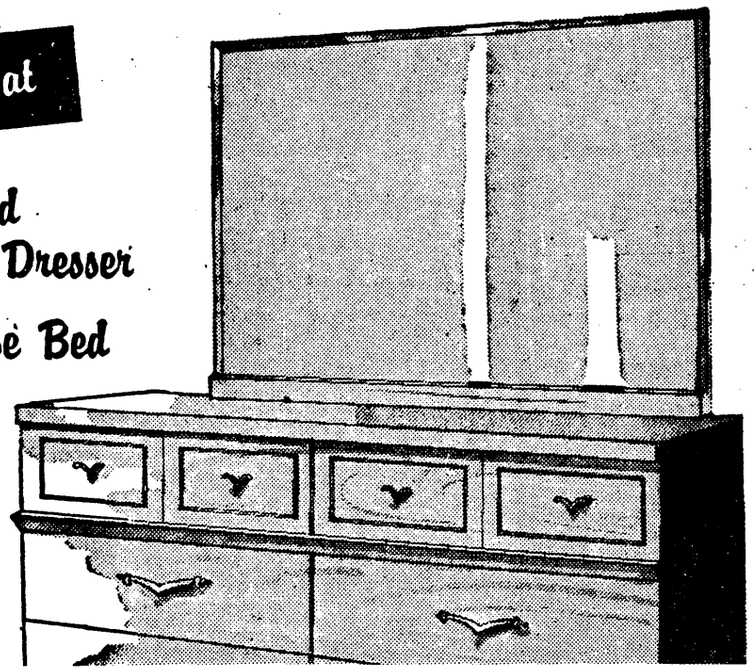


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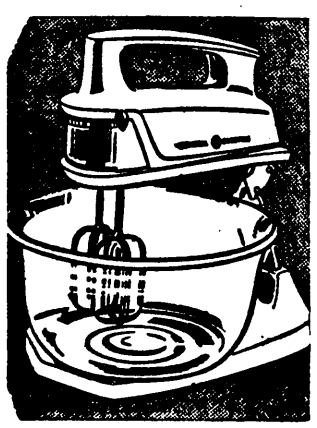

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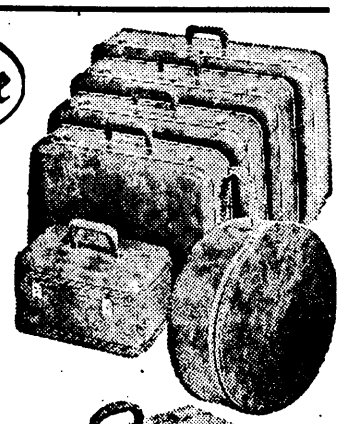

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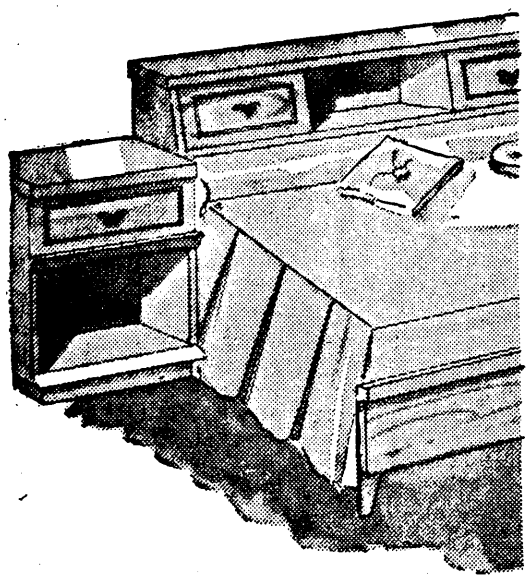

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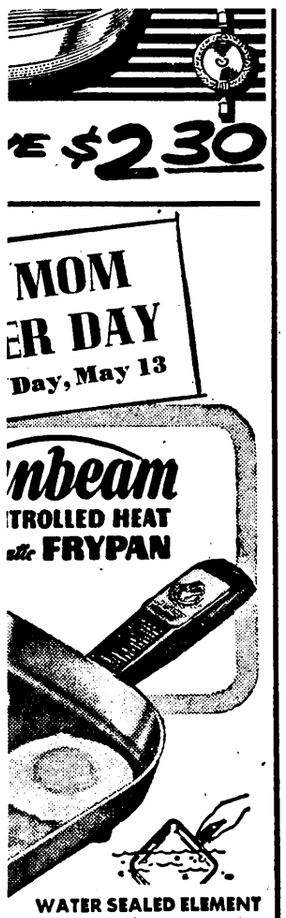

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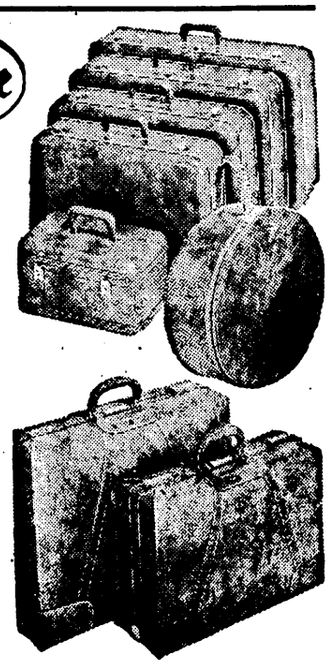

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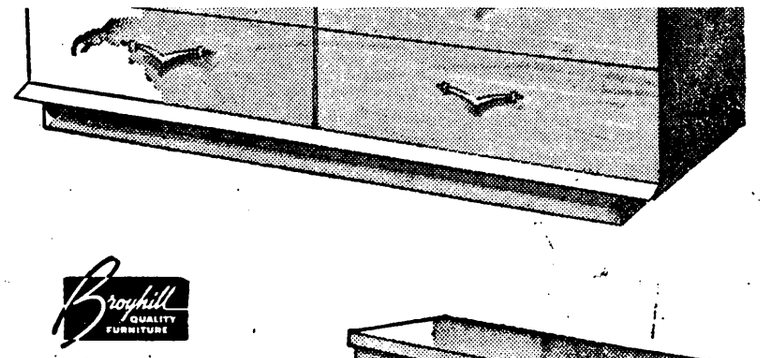

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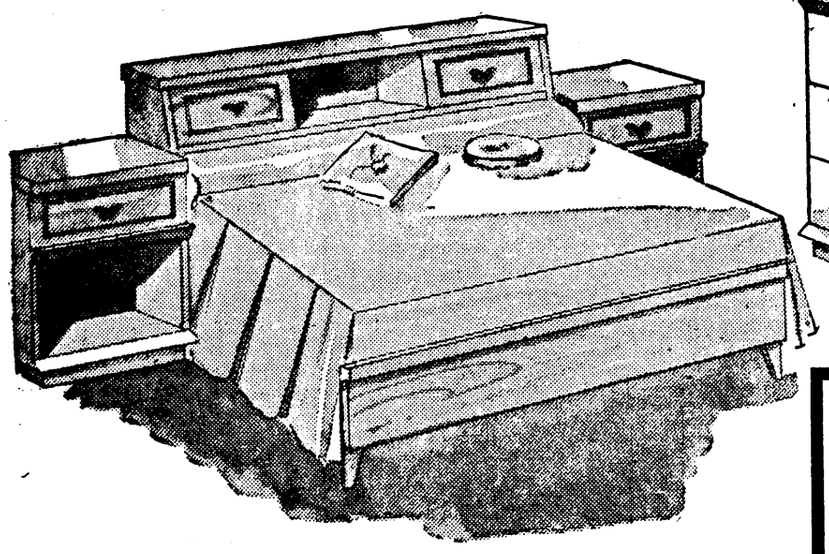

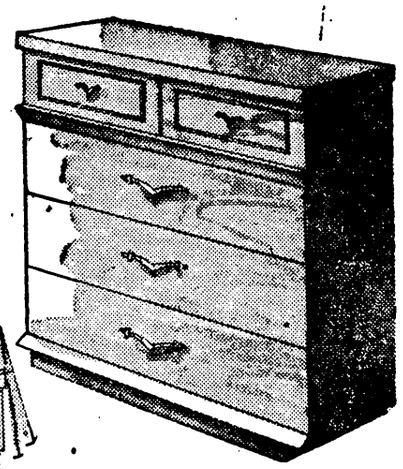

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June 4, 1956

AIRMAIL

Mr. William A. Fordham
Attorney At Law
1404½ Central Avenue
Tampa 2, Florida

NAACP
Registering - Florida

Dear Bill:

As you have probably read in the newspapers, it looks as if we are going to be under pressure by the states to run us out of business in the South. Would you be kind enough to get us copies of the necessary registration forms for foreign corporations doing business in the State of Florida and send it to us as soon as possible.

I would suggest that you get these forms as surreptitiously as possible since if it is known that we are proceeding to get them, the state may make a fast move against us in court. This is what happened in Alabama. On the day after I called Gray, asking him to get the registration forms, the Attorney General went into court and secured this temporary injunction against us.

Sincerely yours,

Robert L. Carter
General Counsel

RLC:plh

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July 18, 1956

NAACP Registration Florida

William A. Fordham, Esq.
1404½ Central Avenue
Tampa 2, Florida

Dear Bill:

I am enclosing herewith a certified photostatic copy of the NAACP Charter. Please register us as soon as possible by filing this with the payment of $30.00 fee. I shall requisition the $30.00 to reimburse you.

Sincerely yours,

Robert L. Carter
General Counsel

RLC:arw
Encl.

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R. A. GRAY
SECRETARY OF STATE

Office of the
# Secretary of State
State of Florida

Tallahassee

June 15, 1956

3015 JUL 25 56

Mr. Leroy Daniels
1411½ Pierce Street
Tampa, Florida

Dear Mr. Daniels:

In reply to your letter of the fourteenth, I am sorry but we do not furnish forms for foreign non-profit corporations. All that is necessary to qualify is a certified copy of the charter with all amendments and check for $30.00.

With kind regards, I am

Respectfully yours,

R A Gray
Secretary of State

/mhd

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WILLIAM A. FORDHAM
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR
AT LAW
ANDERSON BUILDING
1404½ CENTRAL AVE.
TAMPA 2, FLORIDA

July 19, 1956

REGISTERED

1174 JUL 23 5P

The Honorable R. A. Gray
Secretary of State of Florida
Tallahassee, Florida

Dear Sir:

Enclosed you will find a certified photostatic copy of the Charter of the National Association For The Advancement of Colored People, and a money order in the amount of thirty dollars ($30.00) for registration.

Sincerely yours,

William A. Fordham

WAF/lgw
Enc.

COPY

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PHONE 2-2218

Tampa Heights, Florida

Francisco A. Rodriguez
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR
AT LAW
703 HARRISON STREET
TAMPA 2, FLORIDA

August 6, 1956

3329 AUG 7 1956

Mrs. Constance Baker Motley
107 West 43rd Street
New York 36, New York

Dear Connie:

As you know, the Legislature has voted $50,000.00 to investigate the NAACP. The investigators will be armed with subpoena powers.

The ostensible purpose of the investigation is to determine whether the NAACP is advocating violence or disobedience to the laws of the State of Florida. I do not know, whether or not we will be faced with the question of turning over the membership roll for them to inspect.

We are calling an emergency meeting of the Board, Saturday, morning, August 11, 1956, in Miami. Please answer immediately if you have any suggestions, advice or pertinent data as to what instructions we should send back to the Branches.

As ever,

Rod

Rod

FAR/jjg

cc: Roy Wilkens

cc: Bob Carter

# WHERE WAS ADAM
## When Black Cabinet Met?
## Will He Bolt Democrats in 1956?

Story on Page 3

LOUISIANA EDITION

THE PITTSBURGH Courier
AMERICA'S BEST WEEKLY

Win $9,500
**Famous Americans Contest**
Turn to Pages 6-7

Vol. 47—No. 31 Member of Audit Bureau of Circulations 14 PITTSBURGH, PA., AUG. 4, 1956 44 Pages, 3 Sections PRICE 20 CENTS

**Louisiana School Bosses**

# Told to Fire NAACP Teachers

Story on Page 1, 2nd Sec.

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# FLA. IGNORES KKK

## But Taking Action to Outlaw NAACP

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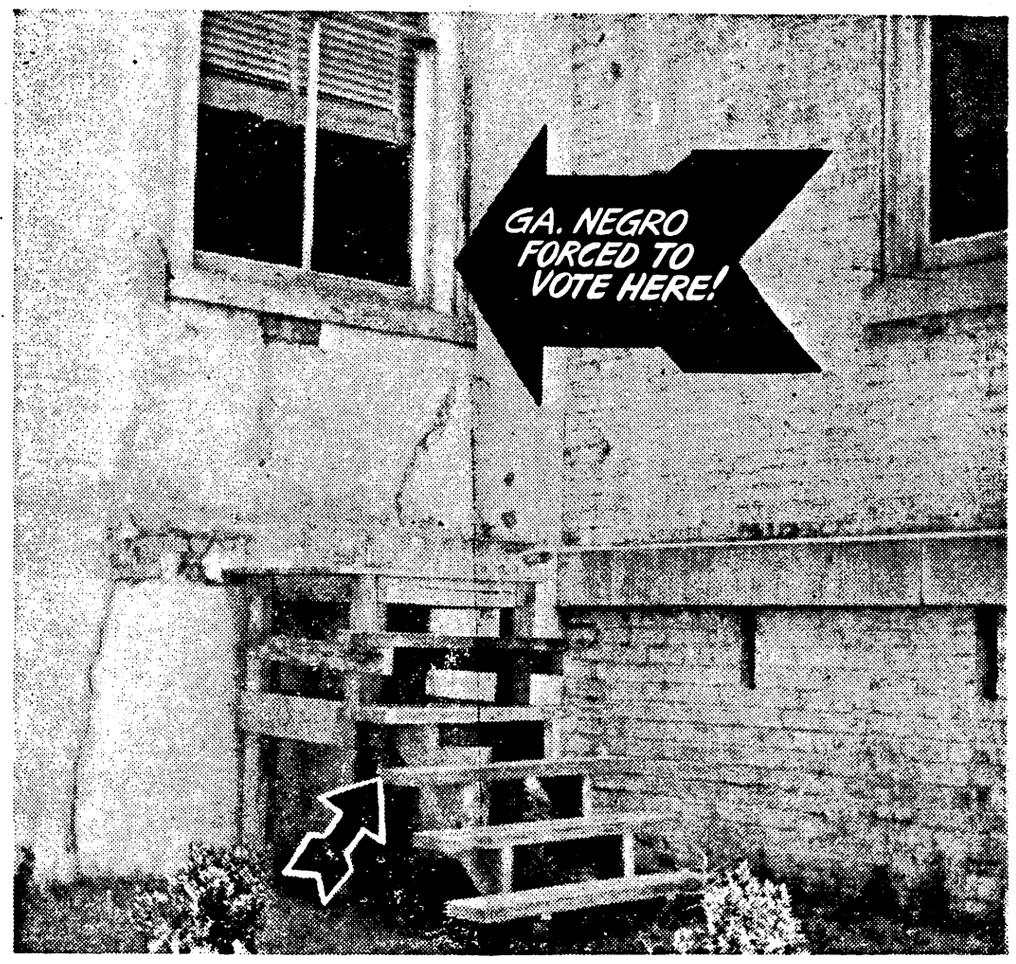
# But Taking Action to Outlaw NAACP!

Story on Page 2




**Voting 'Booth'**—Fayetteville, Ga., believes in all-out jimcrow. Negro voters (four of them) must climb this specially built platform and stick their ballots through a side window of the ancient courthouse during city elections. This is Fayetteville's democratic (?) process. —Lowe Photo. (Story on Page 2.)

## Jackie Robinson Blasts N. Orleans Sports Editor!

Story on Page 25

## Death Claims Wealthy Robert (King) Cole!

Story on Page 3

**Joe Louis And His Heart Attack**

Story on Back Page

DIG!
Danny DOWNBEAT
Beginning... NEXT WEEK! DON'T MISS IT!

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# 'We'll Keep Walking!'

## 'We're in This to the Finish,' Declare Tallahassee (Fla.) Bus Boycotters; Over 100 Negroes Quizzed by City Cops

By ALBERT J. DUNMORE

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—Undismayed by continued police intimidations and threats of preventive legislation, the Inter-City Council, leaders of the bus boycott which stymied this city's public transportation, has announced that "we are in it to the finish .... we'll keep walking."

At a mass meeting in Flipper AME Church, Rev. C. K. Steele, president of the council and pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, was roundly applauded by an overflow audience when he announced: "We will not be frightened. We are in it to the finish. We supported the bus company for the convenience of others and until we get a fair 10-cent ride, no more . . . no less . . . the same that is given other citizens who are not Negroes . . . we will keep on walking."

This was the group's answer to the City Commission and other lawmakers who have announced that laws will be passed both on the city and state levels to check the bus boycott.

Already, a city ordinance which will forbid persons to "regularly or continuously" transport persons "not related by blood or marriage" has gone through its first reading before the City Commission.

If the ordinance passes it will go into effect on Aug. 14. The ordinance carries a $500 fine or 60-day jail sentence.

■

THE INTER-CIVIC Council, through its attorney, Therias Lindsey, has announced that they will contest this measure if it is passed.

**One city commissioner asked if this anti-car pool ordinance would affect those state work-**

In the meantime, Representative Kenneth Ballinger of Leon County has announced that he will introduce an anti-car pool and anti-boycott measure in the State Legislature.

Observers feel that such a measure would have little opportunity to pass.

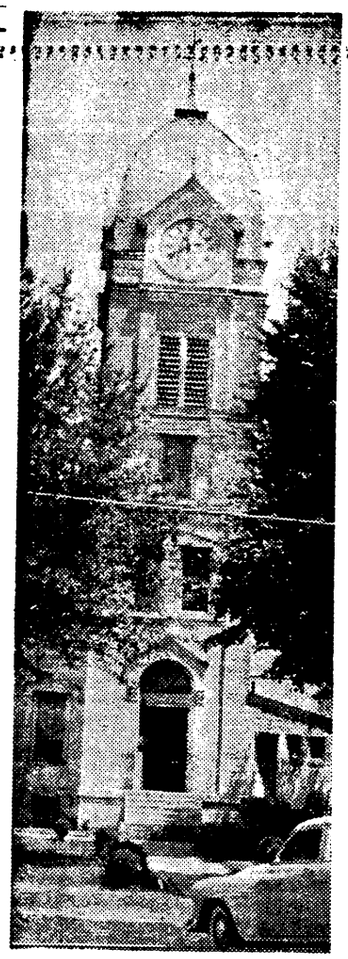
■

**IN THE MEANTIME,** the city police department has begun to clamp down on the car-pool operators and have taken into custody more than 100 persons.

**Although the city claims that no arrests have been made, the Inter-Civic Council reports several instances that could be traced directly to the boycott.**

**Police Chief Frank Stoutemire said that the persons taken into custody were being investigated as the department attempts to determine what action should be taken.**

City Attorney James Messer



THE COURT HOUSE FAYETTEVILLE, GA. . . . for Negroes, a special platform

# Casts His Vote Thru Window

FAYETTEVILLE, Ga.—In this little sawmill community, 22 miles from Atlanta, a lone Negro defied the Ku Klux Klan and voted for the first time in a recent city

# Fla. Klan Rides High as NAACP Takes Beating

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—While the NAACP was placed under the microscope by the Florida State Legislature meeting in special session, no mention was made of the Ku Klux Klan which is gaining new life here in Florida.

Last week-end the Klan held its second major meeting of the last two months, this time in Lakeland, where some 3,000 hooded figures met in a screaming frenzy, shouting words of hate against Jews, Catholics and Negroes.

The Klan met with virtual police protection in spite of state measures which prohibit the burning of crosses or the wearing of masks in public places.

These laws were sidestepped when the Klan paid a dairy farmer $1.00 for the use of the pasture land on which they met.

■

**THE KLAN, ITSELF,** although not identifying its leader . . . who was described by Jim Fraser, admitted to be high up in the Klan hierarchy, as being a man well known to every Floridian, has openly announced its revival here in this state.

**It proclaims as its major purpose to oppose integration in any form or manner.**

Fraser, the brother of former Senator Ed Fraser, who was Senator Charley Johns' campaign manager when the latter opposed the present Governor LeRoy Collins, announced that the Klan plans to hold a similar meeting in Miami within the next month.

■

**FRASER CLAIMS** the Klan in Florida boasts a membership of more than 10,000 men and women.

**Governor Collins won tremendous support in Dade County during his campaign against Senator Charley Johns by**

REP. J. B. ORR . . . "they do not burn crosses"

# 1 Man Stands Alone in Vote Against Bias

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ordinance carries a $500 fine or 60-day jail sentence.

■

**THE INTER-CIVIC** Council, through its attorney, Therias Lindsey, has announced that they will contest this measure if it is passed.

**One city commissioner asked if this anti-car pool ordinance would affect those state workers who use the car pool system to go to work. The questioner was informed that this was not applicable to them.**

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**Inter-Civic Council reports several instances that could be traced directly to the boycott.**

**Police Chief Frank Stoutemire said that the persons taken into custody were being investigated as the department attempts to determine what action should be taken.**

City Attorney James Messer claims that the car pool is being operated in violation of state laws governing "for hire" vehicles. The Inter-Civic Council points out that the cars are not for hire since no charge is made the riders.

These cars are offering rides to friends who don't choose to ride the buses.

■

**PERSONS TAKEN** into custody are questioned at length of their participation in the bus boycott, whether they attend meetings of the Inter-Civic Council, whether they contribute to the council's fund, whether they receive gas from the car-pool funds, and whether they would ride the bus when the services are resumed.

**It is believed that these questions are being asked to establish the fact that cars operating in the car pool are actually "for hire" and that the funds contributed to the council is "payment received for services rendered."**

The Council has instructed its members that when taken into custody to refuse to answer any questions other than to give their names and addresses and to produce their driving licenses if so asked when driving cars.

■

**SOME $245** was contributed to the council fund at the meeting.

**The Rev. Metz Rollins, treasurer of the council and pastor of the local Presbyterian church, announced prior to the collection that there was $2659.28 in the treasury.**

Prominent in the audience were a number of members of the Florida A. and M. University faculty . . . many holders of top positions including several Ph. D.s and department heads.

## *Mary Ellen Goode Buried in Penna.*

PITTSBURGH, Pa. — Mrs. Mary Ellen Goode, a resident of Homestead, Pa., for the past 51 years, has been laid to rest. The deceased is survived by six children: James of the Goode Real Estate Company; William, owner of the Goode Drug Stores here; Malvin, radio newscaster; Mary Dee, local disc jockey; Walter Allen, automobile salesman, and Ruth, an associate of the Goode Drug Stores concern, with their respective families.

# Vote Thru Window

FAYETTEVILLE, Ga.—In this little sawmill community, 22 miles from Atlanta, a lone Negro defied the Ku Klux Klan and voted for the first time in a recent city election.

Four Negroes were registered.

The man who voted is ex-Marine W. J. Anderson.

He has lived in the community eight years, and is a building contractor.

■

**ANDERSON** told a Courier reporter he had sought to vote in previous elections. In national and state elections he had always voted without hindrance.

He was taken by surprise recently when presenting himself for his ballot. He had to mark it on the lawn of the court house and mount a specially constructed platform to deposit it through a window.

Anderson, who was finishing up a job in another community, said he voted in the early hours. He was one of the first.

He said his wife, Mrs. W. J. Anderson, rushed to the Court House during the early afternoon to find the voting booth closed. The lone voting place closed before 3 P. M.

A Courier reporter was told the reason for the early closing was "light voting." Less than 800 were said to have cast ballots for a mayor and four council members.

■

**THE TWO** other registered voters were faced with the same problem. They were listed as Joseph R. Stinchcomb, a bricklayer, and George Jones.

A motorcade of more than 20 cars with white-robed men carrying a flaming cross paraded through the colored section the night before the election. It was reported also the men were without masks or hoods.

■

**FRASER CLAIMS** the Klan in Florida boasts a membership of more than 10,000 men and women.

**Governor Collins won tremendous support in Dade County during his campaign against Senator Charley Johns by openly denouncing Johns as a former Klansman.**

**Today, the Governor, anxious to push through his anti-integration measures in the House, remains silent although publicly attacking the NAACP.**

The NAACP prides itself on the fact that it has at no time promoted violence and has continually urged its membership to fight its battle through the courts of the land.

■

**AT NO TIME** has its membership ever attempted to hide itself behind masks.

In spite of this it is being held up as creating violence while the Klan with its hate-spewing doctrines based on ignorance and disrespect for law and order grows almost with the blessings of the politicians in control.

# 1 Man Stands Alone in Vote Against Bias

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Although pelted with threats against his family and facing the "silent treatment" from fellow-legislators, State Rep. John B. (Jack) Orr of Miami continued his one-man stand against new Florida laws which are designed to sidestep the U. S. Supreme Court's ruling against segregation.

Orr had cast the lone dissenting vote against a proposal which would set up an interim committee plus a $50,000 "kitty" to probe "subversive" groups and individuals.

Everyone in the state knows that the "subversive" target is the NAACP.

■

**ORR EXPLAINED** his stand by pointing to his belief that segregation is "morally wrong."

**He told silent fellow-lawmakers during the special sessions being held in the capitol, "I believe, moreover, that had we devoted as much energy, time and talent to discovering means to live under the law, instead of defiance of it, we could have discovered a way."**

**The legislator told newsman later, "The big trouble with the NAACP is that they have been right. They seek action in the courts. They do not burn crosses."**

At least one solon evinced admiration for Orr's stand. Rep. W. W. Herrell of Miami said, "I only wish I will have similar courage when called upon to make a decision on a matter of importance to me."

# Your Public Conduct

**• Refusal to observe manners when you are among coarse people makes you more offensive because you know better.**

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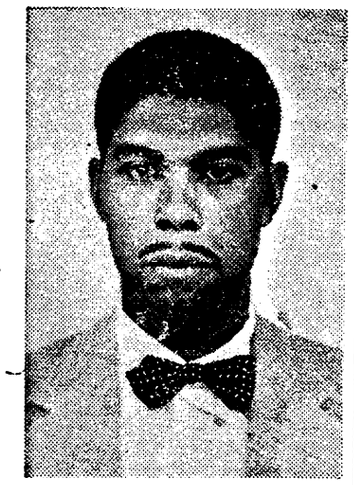
SECTION 2
THE PITTSBURGH Courier
AUG. 4, 1956 La. 1

## La. School Heads

# Ordered to Fire NAACP Teachers

By JOHN E. ROUSSEAU

BATON ROUGE — State Superintendent of Education Shelby M. Jackson mailed to presidents and members of school boards, principals, visiting teachers and supervisors throughout Louisiana copies of Act 249, the recently legislated law which provides that school board employes are to be fired for holding NAACP memberships or for advocating public school integration.



**APPEALS** — Ex-Patrolman Henry Bennett, New Orleans, appealed his dismissal in May from the police department on charges that he failed to act when his partner, ex-Patrolman Raymond Allen, loaned a pistol to a civilian. Civil Service Commission took matter under advisement.

The act, formerly House Bill 1447, bearing the names of Legislators Garrett, Gravolet, Dupont, Stinson and Napper, and Senators Rainach, Folse, Crothers and Davis, states in part:

■

"**AN ACT** to amend and reenact Section 443 of Title 17 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, relative to removal of teachers, procedures, right to appeal, by adding thereto as causes for removal, membership in or contribution to groups, organizations, movements or corporations prohibited from operating in the State of Louisiana, or advocacy of integration of the races in the state's school systems or higher educational institutions."

In detail, the act states "A permanent teacher shall not be removed from office except upon written and signed charges of wilful neglect of duty, or incompetency or dishonesty, or of being a member of or of contributing to any group, organization, movement or corporation that is by law or injunction prohibited from operating in the State of Louisiana, or of advocating or in any manner performing any act toward bringing about integration of the races within the public school system or any public institution of high learning in the State of Louisiana, and then only if found guilty after a hearing by the school board of the parish or city, as the case may be, which hearing may be private or public, at the option of the teacher . . ."

It concludes: "In case any part of this act shall be held to be unconstitutional, this shall not have the effect of invalidating any part of it that is constitutional, and the part or parts not affected by such ruling shall continue in full force and effect."

*Scottish Rite*

# Masons Convene In 68th Session

NEW ORLEANS — Approximately 1,500 delegates and officers are attending the 68th biennial session of the United

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# In 68th Session

NEW ORLEANS — Approximately 1,500 delegates and officers are attending the 68th biennial session of the United Supreme Council of the Sovereign Grand Inspectors-General of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite Freemasonry, Southern and Western Masonic Jurisdiction, which opened Sunday in the Supreme Council headquarters, 411 Bienville St., and will end Saturday.

Hosts to the sessions are the 123 lodges and Eastern Star chapters of Louisiana, A. R. Turner, Most Worshipful Grand Master.

The activities opened Sunday with a parade from Third and LaSalle to the Municipal Auditorium where a worship program was conducted with the Rev. A. Prince Fortner, pastor of Beulah Baptist Church, officiating.

■

**OUTSTANDING** officials attending include Hudson B. Turner, Houston, Tex., Most Powerful Sovereign Grand Commander; Floyd Clark, Irvington, Va., President-General Grand Masonic Congress; Z. A. Crawford, New York, Grand Master, General Grand Encampment of Knights Templar; Leonce Richardson, Cleveland, Ohio, General High Priest, Royal Arch Masons; E. M. Hunter, Houston, Tex., Imperial Grand Potentate, Order of the Mystic Shrine, and W. J. Oates, Natchez, Miss., Supreme Royal Grand Patron, Order of Eastern Star.

Also, Mrs. Cora C. Moore, Houston, Tex., Supreme Royal Grand Matron, Order of the Eastern Star; Mrs. Ioneze H. Jefferson, New York, Supreme Worthy Chief Counsellor, Ladies of Knights Templar; Mrs. Ada M. Crawford, New York, Supreme Most Ancient Matron, Heroines of Jericho; Mrs. Eleanor Richardson, Cleveland, Ohio, Supreme Most Excellent Rose, Rose of the Seven Seals, and Mrs. Laura Hemphill, Supreme Most Worthy Grand Matron, Daughters of the Sphinx.

Other activities for the week include: Tuesday, a sightseeing tour; Wednesday, moonlight ride; Thursday, Shriners' Ball, and Friday, banquet and queen's pageant.

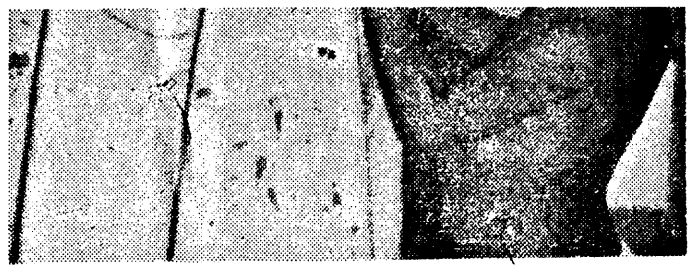
# XU Deadline Wednesday

NEW ORLEANS—Wednesday is the deadline for new students to apply for the fall term of Xavier University, it was announced this week. Applications received after that date will be processed for second semester entrance.

The fourth and fifth in a series of placement tests for prospective freshmen are scheduled Aug. 25 and Sept. 10.

Xavier's summer session, with an enrollment of 725 students, terminated Friday.

**HONORED**—A giant celebration has been planned for Wednesday, Aug. 1, at Lincoln Beach, New Orleans, on the birthday occasion of Orleans Levee Board president, Louis Roussell, above. Through him Lincoln Beach was founded, organized and developed into one of the finest playspots in the nation.



**SLAYS MATE** — Mrs. Helen Steele, 25-year-old expectant mother of five children, is shown waiting to be taken to the Fifth District Police Station, New Orleans, after allegedly stabbing her husband, Bob Steele, 30, in the heart with a steak knife. Mrs. Steele told police her husband struck her with a shoe and threatened her with a knife.—FLNS Photo.

*Lightweight Title*

# Fight Boycott Gains Support

**NEW ORLEANS — A boycott of the Joe Brown - Bud Smith lightweight championship fight here gained momentum last week when it was learned that several clubs and organizations adopted a "silent boycott" in protest of the state's new segregation sports law. The fight, originally scheduled for Aug. 10, has been reset for Aug. 24. Widespread talk of boycott has been prevalent among Negro sports fans since the law was signed. An air of "stay-at-home" prevails as they eye jim-crow seating arrangements in addition to the new law which bans all racial intermingling in sports. No one organization is behind the movement as it picks up support.**

*Fireworks Planned!*

# Beach to Observe Roussell's Birthday

NEW ORLEANS — Thousands are expected to trek to Lincoln Beach on Wednesday night, Aug. 1, for the annual birthday celebration of Louis J. Roussell. A gigantic display of fireworks and entertainment will highlight the annual Roussell party, with Emile Bruneau, beach corporation president, acting as official host.

Ernest J. Wright, executive director of the Peoples Defense League, will serve as chairman of birthday festivities. In lauding the work of the Orleans Board of Levee Commissioners, Mr. Wright said: "I have known Mr. Roussell to be of genuine interest in the community progress of our city and it was through his ingenuity that Lincoln Beach was a reality."

"Because of his unsefish interest in human beings, regardless of race, color or creed and because of his unswerving convictions, he has been a stalwart champion for human rights," he concluded.

■

**THE PROGRAM** for the evening will include special music by the radio choir of Second Baptist Church under the direction of Edwin B. Hogan, prominent organist and choral master. A history and highlights of the beach will be presented by Miss Katie E. Wickham, prominent businesswoman.

Atty. Louis Berry of New Orleans and Alexandria will make special remarks; Ernest Thomas, high Elk official in Louisiana, will present the honored guest with a gift on behalf of the citizens of New Orleans.

Following the program, stars of Crescent City night club world will honor the builder of Lincoln Beach. They will include William Houston, pianist and orchestra leader; Carl Van Moon, singing star, and Pork Chops and Kidney Stew.

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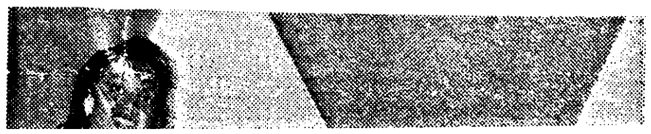
# Winner and Runners-up in New Orleans Beauty Contest

THE WINNER—A hairline decision [illegible]

SECOND PLACE—Winning second place honors in the "Miss New Orleans" bathing beauty contest at Lincoln Beach was Gloria (Miss Courier) Nicks. Lincoln Beach Manager Walter Wright looks on as Louis Roussel, Levee Board president, awards second place trophy to Miss Nicks.—Porter Photo.



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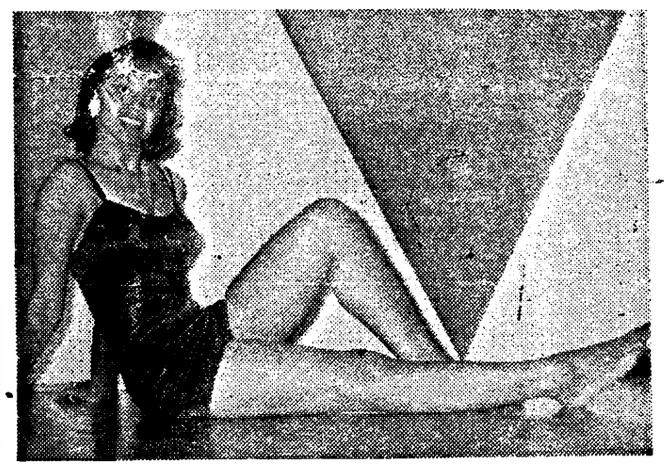
**THE WINNER**—A hairline decision by judges in the "Miss New Orleans" bathing beauty contest at Lincoln Beach, New Orleans, awarded the coveted title and trophy to Ann Ruth Green, an 18-year-old church usher. She is shown being crowned by June Foster, who won the title in 1954. Louis Roussel presents a bouquet. The winner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Green, New Orleans, received a one-week, all-expense trip to Miami, Fla.—Porter Photo.



**MISS "THIRD PLACE"**—Shapely Juanita Summers, 20, won third place honors in the "Miss New Orleans" bathing beauty contest at Lincoln Beach, New Orleans.—Williams Photo.

"honorable mention" in the "Miss New Orleans" bathing beauty contest at Lincoln Beach, New Orleans, pretty Rocelyn Roberts waves a cheery greeting to thousands of spectators.—Williams Photo.

*Church Organist*

# Accuses Cop Of Brutality

By JOHN E. ROUSSEAU

NEW ORLEANS — Motorcycle Patrolman Robert Russell, 27, of 2029 Jena, and Lucien Garrett, 19-year-old organist for Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, 3427 Magnolia St., gave conflicting versions of an arrest which resulted in slight injuries to both. Russell, according to police reports, had both little fingers broken "in a scuffle" with the youth. Garrett told The Courier that Russell had beaten him without provocation.

Garrett told The Courier, also, that he has reported the matter to the Police Bureau of Investigation and the matter is being probed.

Russell reported he was en route toward headquarters at the end of his tour early when he saw a car racing on St. Charles at Napoleon. He said he gave chase, stopped the car and ordered the driver to get out. He said that Garrett, the driver, "got out fighting."

■

**FURTHER**, reports said Russell's litle fingers on both hands were broken in a scuffle with the youth at Delachaise and Carondelet Sts. Garrett was booked at the Second District with speeding over 70 miles per hour in a 35-mile zone and resisting arrest.

Interviewed by The Courier, Garrett said he was stopped at Amelia and Saratoga Sts. about 12:45 A. M., July 24.

"The officer asked me for my license," Garrett said, "and as I was getting it to show him he struck me and told me to get out of the car. I obeyed, but he kept beating me and calling me names, then he got on his motorbike and told me to follow.

"Before I could get in the car, he hopped off the motorbike, struck me with his gun and told me if I tried to run he would kill me."

■

**GARRETT** said while this was happening an automobile with several persons drove up and stopped but the officer told them to move on. Garrett says he has contacted the persons and they made statements to the PBI.

He said that after following the officer to Prytania and Louisiana Ave., he was stopped again when the officer hailed a passing squad car and borrowed a blackjack.

"He struck me with the blackjack," Garrett said, "and then returned it to the squad car, got on his motorbike and led the way to the police station on Magazine St."

■

**GARRETT** said the officer beat him again in the garage next to the police station, pushed him inside the station and started beating him again.

"Two officers in the station stopped the motorcycle policeman from beating me and he began crying," Garrett said. "He told me if he had caught me in Algiers he would have killed me."

The youth, a junior minister and organist for Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, was paroled following efforts by the pastor, the Rev. P. Rayfield Brown III.

## CHARITY HOSPITAL

NEW ORLEANS — Twenty-six deaths were reported by the Charity Hospital morgue for the week ending July 20. Orleanians listed were:

Luella Jones, 40, 2421 St. Andrew; Philip Packer, 64, 1817 North Miro; Melvin Brown, 56, 3509½ Fourth; Edward Anderson, 80, 1126 South Gayoso; Isaiah Vincent, 45, Algiers; Deborah Banks, 5 months, 1901 Lafitte; Cheryl Marie Knox, 5 months, 582 Hellum; Samuel Butler, 65, 1940½ Jackson; Mary Durel, 79, 2238 Mandeville; Elizabeth Givens, 80, 4112 Holly Grove; Will Sam, 62, 1304 Saratoga; Roy Sevalia, 20, 4538 Touro; Louis Randolph, 34, 941 Julia; Olivia Harris, 72, 1411 South Rampart.

Others listed were Mary Hyde, 40, Madisonville, La.; Patricia Ann Butler, 15 months, Maringouin; George Sanders, 51, Vidalia; William Johnson, 50, Prairieville; Evelyn Clark, 75, Baton Rouge; Antoine Brown, 63, Morgan City; Cora Hebert, 63, New Roads; William Grimstead, 83, Bogalusa; Walter Wright, 76, Jackson; Richard Dixon, 45, Alexandria; Bobby Lee Valentine, 7 months, Morgan City; Oscar Keasley, 80, Paincourtville.

### Seeks Baptist Post

SAN ANTONIO, Tex. (ANP)—Dr. P. S. Wilkinson has announced his decision to become an active candidate for the office of presidency of the National Baptist Convention of America.

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# Collins Lets NAACP Probe Pass

## Measure Becomes Law Without His Signature; Johnson Cool To Governor's Suggestion Group Investigate Klan

By TOM RAKER
Tribune Staff Writer

TALLAHASSEE, Aug. 21—Gov. LeRoy Collins today let a bill providing for a legislative committee to investigate the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People become law without his signature.

A senate committeeman promptly declared the law is "not designed to get us together to raise hell, but to investigate soberly."

Senate committee member and likely chairman Dewey M. Johnson of Quincy, who introduced the bill, told The Tribune he expected to get the group together about Sept. 1, to commence operations.

The law carries a $50,000 expense appropriation.

**Cool to Klan Suggestion**

It was apparent that Johnson intends to devote little time to a Collins suggestion that the committee can also investigate the Ku Klux Klan under the authority granted by the legislature.

Johnson reiterated today what he said when introducing the bill during the special session, that "it is aimed at the NAACP." But he said he'd check the Klan if it becomes apparent that organization is breaking the law.

Other senate members are Charley E. Johns of Starke, and John Rawls of Marianna. Senate President W. Turner Davis of Madison named them during the session, after the bill passed with only one dissenting vote.

**David Names Four**

House Speaker Ted David of Hollywood today named Henry W. Land of Orange; J. B. Hopkins of Escambia; A. J. Musselman of Broward, and W. C. Herrell of Dade from the lower chamber.

Collins in a statement issued this morning pointed out that the committee will be shortlived under terms of the law.

He said he did not feel it his duty to veto or approve the measure, which he said was one "for legislative determination."

Collins classed the $50,000 as "excessive" but expressed the

(Continued on Page 4, Column 1)

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# Gov. Collins Lets NAACP Probe Bill Become Law

(Continued from Page 1)

hope the committee will spend only a "small proportion of this."

He said he felt the committee would recognize its responsibility to the people of Florida "and not abuse the broad powers granted it."

He indicated the governor's office will refer "many inquiries I am receiving regarding the Ku Klux Klan for the scrutiny of the committee also."

**Doubts KKK Unlawful**

Johnson said he knows of nothing the KKK is doing to violate the law, although "I hold no brief for them."

Of the NAACP investigation he said, "the object of this thing is not to get together and raise hell. It is to get facts and figures on reported law violations so we can prepare legislation next session to put a halt to those violations."

**Sees "Intimidation"**

Johnson declared it to be "my personal conviction" that the Tallahassee bus boycott was caused by the NAACP, and he said he has received information leading him to believe "there is intimidation of Negroes" who might otherwise be riding the buses here."

Buses operated by Cities Transit, Inc., have returned to their capital city run after a month-long layoff caused by the boycott.

As for the law itself, Johnson declared, "I think members of the legislature knew what they were doing when they passed it."

The law directs the committee to investigate "all organizations whose principles or activities include a course of conduct on the part of any person or group which would constitute violence, or a violation of the laws of the state, or would be inimical to the well being and orderly pursuit of their personal and business activities by a majority of the citizens of this state."

**To Report to Session**

Committeemen will report to the 1957 session "to the end that corrective legislation may be adopted if found necessary to correct any abuses against the peace and dignity of the state."

House Speaker David said he would let committeemen decide for themselves on a chairman. Johnson said Davis had told the senate members he would head the upper house delegation.

David said he considered his appointments in the light of the leanings of the individuals, and that he sought out conservatives from large metropolitan areas for the job.

**Named For "Balance"**

David said the three South Florida members were named to "balance the committee." All three senators are from North Florida.

David said Hillsborough was not represented because Reps. James S. Moody of Plant City and Sam Gibbons of Tampa were already overloaded with legislative chores.

Both were considered, he said.

David said his only recommendation would be that the committee do its investigating and recommending as a group, and that no member make individual investigations outside the main body.

## Mexican Freed

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Times-Herald
6-23-56

# What About The Klan?

Speker Ted David of the Florida House has made four sound appointments to the new joint committee set up by the Legislature for the tacit purpose of investigating the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. We believe Reps. Henry Land, of Orange County, Cliff Herrell, of Dade, J. B. Hopkins, of Escambia, and Jack Musselman, of Broward, to be men of restraint and good judgment.

In that light, we are hopeful that these four will counterbalance dubious appointments from the Senate side and that the committee will pass into oblivion next Spring without doing a lot of harm.

It's possible, of course, that the committee could actually turn up something useful as it fishes about. But the potential for evil in this bill, with its broad language authorizing investigation of anything "inimicable to the majority," outweighs the potential for good.

Happily, the committee's scheduled existence will end in April when the regular session of the Legislature begins.

Governor Collins, in allowing the bill to become law without his signature, washed his hands of it by saying that it was a matter within the legislative province. We cannot agree fully with this contention, since the veto power exists only to be used if the Governor sees fit.

But we do not criticise the Governor in his position, because of its practical background. When the special session on segregation was about to convene, Collins conferred with a group of senators who pledged their support to his moderate program for avoiding compulsory integration in the schools. They also reported they had an investigating bill of their own. If Governor Collins had objected, he would have raised the lid on a potential Pandora's box of questionable measures like interposition and heaven knows what else.

So the Governor got the NAACP bill along with his own program and he was probably lucky to get out that lightly.

He indicates that he will refer to the committee complaints against the Ku Klux Klan, which may also be investigated. Senator Dewey Johnson, of Quincy, author of the bill and chairman-apparent of the investigation, seems reluctant to hear this—he puts his stress on the NAACP—but he says the committee is willing to look into reports of illegal activities by the Klan.

We will see if the committee goes after both extremes, or fires at the left wing only.

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**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE**
**20 WEST 40th STREET, NEW YORK 18, N. Y.**
**LOngacre 3-6890**

*Please direct reply to:*
Robert Saunders
1404½ Central Avenue
Tampa 2, Florida

22415 AUG27'56

August 23rd, 1956

Mr. Roy Wilkins,
Executive Sec.,NAACP,
20 West 40th Street,
New York 18, New York.

Dear Mr. Wilkins:

Following the passage of legislation by the Florida State Legislature (see news clippings submitted during July),the Florida State Conference Board of Directors and Branches met in Miami on Saturday August 11, to determine what action should be taken by the Conference to handle all matters. Including the proposal passed by the law maker to "Investigate the NAACP" and which was allowed to become law without the signature of the governor yesterday, the following business was transacted:

Represented were the following Branches: Tampa, Jacksonville, Miami, Liberty City, Homestead, Ft. Lauderdale, West Palm Beach, Pensacola, St. Augustine, Lake Wales, Bell Glade, St. Petersburg, Ft. Myers and Tarpon Springs. Not represented but sending acknowledgments were Bermuda Springs, Madison County, Sarasota County and Bay County Branches.

It was agreed that the following procedure for handling Branch matters in view of the pending investigation should be followed. A relationship of client-lawyer should be set up between the following attorneys representing the State Conference and Branch presidents. Each attorney (T. Malcolm Cunningham, West Palm Beach, Attorney C.C.Graves and Davis-Miami, F.A.Rodriguez-Tampa) was furnished a list of Branch presidents by the Field Secretary. They are to contact each President personally for the purpose of receiving Branch membership lists- The lists are to be deposited with the Chairman of the Legal Committee for the State. The State Conference is to pay them mileage at the rate of ten cents per mile.

A total of 868.dollars was raised by the Branches to begin the work and pledges from other Branches were received which will place the amount above one thousand dollars when received. A discussion was held on the possibilities of beginning a state wide project designed at ending segregation in one particular field and in which each Branch could participate. After considerable deliberation, it was agreed that the problem of intra-state transportation should be attacked to eliminate segregation. It was decided that the action should begin in Miami. A check for five hundred dollars was paid to Attorneys Graves and Davis as a retainer to begin the action. It is expected that the suit (or other legal action) will be started sometime in September.

The State Conference is ready for any investigation and I am proud to say that every Branch wants to do something despite the amount of

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pressure that is being pushed by the opposition.

Some of these pressures are stemming from the increased activities of the Ku Klux Klan. They are holding meetings all over the State and are recruiting members at their rallies. Rallies are to be held during September in Tallahassee and Miami with cross burnings. Although there have been no intimidations or violence reported, many persons feel that it is only a matter of time before he flames die over. Some cross burnings have been reported in small communities and the secretary of the Liberty City Branch reported to me that the markings "KKK" were painted on his front gate. It is important to note that the committee which is supposed to investigate the FLACP has "heard of no acts of lawlessness committed by the Klan" and therefore will not investigate it.

With reference to the project to get together leaders of all major organizations with Negro leaders, the success of its being executed will depend upon the acceptance by the Governor of such a plan. I have been unable to contact Mr. Nelson Poynter of the St. Petersburg Times because of the special session in Tallahassee and the National Democratic Convention. However, I do hope to confer with him in the next week or two.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Saunders

cc: Mr. Gloster B. Current
Director of Branches, NAACP

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Fla - Pressure
State action

AIR MAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY

August 27, 1956

Mr. Robert Saunders
Field Secretary, NAACP
1404½ Central Avenue
Tampa, Florida

Dear Mr. Saunders:

With reference to the Florida investigation of the NAACP, we must have immediately copies of the bill signed by the Governor and as much other information as is presently available.

The bill is necessary in order to determine the scope of the investigation and what advice should be given Branch officers who certainly will be visited by the investigators in the near future.

Mr. Carter is goingaway for a few weeks rest after which we will hold a meeting with Florida Branch officers. Let me hear from you at once.

Sincerely yours,

GLOSTER B. CURRENT
Director of Branches

GBC/mmh

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Misc.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
20 WEST 40th STREET, NEW YORK 18, N. Y.
LOngacre 3-6890

Robert Saunders

*Please direct reply to:*
Robert Saunders
1404½ Central Avenue
Tampa 2, Florida

August 29, 1956

Mr. Thurgood Marshall
Special Counsel, NAACP
20 West 40th Street
New York 18, New York

Dear Thurgood:

I am enclosing for your information special bills enacted by the special session of the Florida Legislature called to consider ways of preserving segregation in this State. Also included is the investigation bill which makes no mention of the Association by name but which, according to its framer, is intended for the NAACP.

Very truly yours,

Bob Saunders

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
20 WEST 40th STREET, NEW YORK 18, N. Y.
LOngacre 3-6890

*Please direct reply to:*
Robert Saunders
1404½ Central Avenue
Tampa 2, Florida

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August 29, 1956

Mr. Roy Wilkins
Executive Secretary, NAACP
20 West 40th Street
New York 18, New York

Dear Mr. Wilkins:

Submitted herewith are copies of all legislation passed during the special session of the Florida State Legislature and related to the subject of segregation. Included also is the legislation which became law without the Governor's signature, allowing for the investigation of organizations in this State. Although there is no reference to the NAACP in this bill, it is the intent (so says the framer) of the law making body to investigate the NAACP.

I have also included a copy of the State's Attorney General's opinion on the Motor pool which is the basis upon which the current arrests are being made. Ten persons have been arrested and charged with not having a "for hire" license. Rev. Steele is amoung the ten and has been arrested twice on the same offense. Mr. Fordham has assigned Mr. Rodriguez to work with the Attorney for the group here and he is of the opinion that the State should follow through with a suit testing the segregation statutes in the State of Florida.

The group including the Tallahassee Branch have requested that Mr. Marshall or his staff issue an opinion of the Attorney General opinion as to the possibility of its legality. If you think that this is wise, will you please forward the copy to the legal staff for that purpose.

I have observed the buses operating here and it appears that Negroes are refusing to ride more then ever now. Rev. Steele and his staff say that the recent actions by law enforcement officials are designed to cover up the mistake made by the Chamber of Commerce when they asked the bus company to resume operations under the impression that a majority of the Negroes would again ride. Since the buses resumed operation, it is estimated that less then six percent of the total Negro population have ridden. The buses that I saw had no Negroes on them and few whites. The Inter Civic Council is still holding packed meetings. Interest is very high and there are plans for raising funds to help in the filing of a suit. Rev. Steele complains of the amount of support

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he has received from Florida.

Trials for the persons arrested have been set for September 6 with pleadings for the rest scheduled for September 4. Attorney Lindsay is trying to get the cases moved from the police court to a higher court on the grounds that the former doesnot have jurisdiction since they are arresting on the grounds of a state statute and not a local ordinance.

Concerning funds, Rev. Steele is wondering if some sort of arrangement could be made whereby the local group could appeal to the masses through speaking engagements, etc.

The motor pool is still operating with about seventy-two cars. One arrest was made this morning when a man was transporting his family. All have been released on bond pending trials. Operating funds are becoming depleted. I couldnot get the exact amount on hand because of the absence of the treasurer.

Very truly yours,

Bob Saunders

cc: Mr. Current

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## CHAPTER 31498

## SENATE BILL NO. 38-XX

AN ACT to provide for the creation and appointment of a committee of the Legislature to make investigations of the activities in this State of organizations advocating violence or a course of conduct which would constitute a violation of the Laws of Florida; for the conduct of hearings and the subpoenaeing of witnesses; for a report of such committee to the 1957 Legislature; authorizing the employment of specialized assistance by the committee; making an appropriation for the expenses of the committee; and providing an effective date.

*Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:*

Section 1. There is hereby created a special committee of the legislature to be composed of seven (7) members, three (3) of whom shall be appointed from the membership of the state senate by the president, and four (4) of whom shall be appointed from the membership of the state house of representatives by the speaker. The members of said committee shall serve as such until discharged by the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives upon receipt of their report at the regular 1957 session of the legislature.

Section 2. It shall be the duty of the committee to make as complete an investigation as time permits of all organizations whose principles or activities include a course of conduct on the part of any person or group which would constitute violence, or a violation of the laws of the state, or would be inimical to the well being and orderly pursuit of their personal and business activities by the majority of the citizens of this state. Such investigations shall be conducted with the purpose of reporting to this legislature of the activities of such organizations to the end that corrective legislation may be adopted if found necessary to correct any abuses against the peace and dignity of the state.

Section 3. The committee is authorized to employ such experts, clerical and other assistance as may be required; to require by subpoena or otherwise the attendance of such witnesses and the production of such papers, bonds and documents, and to administer such oaths to take such testimony and to make such expenditures within the limitation herein authorized as it may deem necessary in the performance of its duties.

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Section 4. The committee shall report to the 1957 regular session of the legislature the results of its investigations, together with its recommendations, if any, for necessary legislation. There is hereby appropriated from the general revenue fund for expenses of the committee in conducting its investigation the sum of fifty thousand dollars ($50,000) which shall be expended under the direction of the committee.

Section 5. This act shall take effect immediately upon becoming a law.

Became a law without the Governor's approval.

Filed in Office Secretary of State August 21, 1956.

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**CHAPTER 31389**

**SENATE BILL NO. 10-XX**

**AN ACT** to confer additional emergency powers upon the Governor of Florida; to authorize and empower the Governor to promulgate and enforce rules and regulations to protect the public against violence, property damage and overt threat of violence; to authorize the State Military Forces and Law En-Forcement Agencies of State or County to enforce rules and regulations; to provide for posting rules and regulations and filing with the Secretary of State; providing an effective date; and providing an expiration date.

*Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:*

Section 1. The Governor of Florida is hereby authorized and empowered to promulgate and enforce such emergency rules and regulations as are necessary to prevent, control, or quell violence, threatened or actual, during any emergency lawfully declared by him to exist. In order to protect the public welfare, persons and property of citizens against violence, public property damage, overt threats of violence, and to maintain peace, tranquillity and good order in the state, these rules and regulations may control public parks, public buildings, or any other public facility in Florida, and shall regulate the manner of use, the time of use, and persons using the facility during any emergency. These rules and regulations shall have the same force and effect as law during any emergency, and shall remain in effect during a period of time and in such manner, and shall affect such persons, public buildings and public facilities as in the judgment of the Governor shall best provide a safeguard for protection of persons and property where danger, violence and threats exist, or are threatened among the citizens of Florida.

Section 2. Whenever the Governor shall promulgate emergency rules and regulations, such rules and regulations shall be published and posted during the emergency in the area affected, and copies of the rules shall be filed with the Secretary of State for public record.

Section 3. The Governor shall have emergency power to call upon the military forces of the state or any other law enforcement agency, state or county, to enforce the rules and regulations authorized by this law.

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Section 4. The powers herein granted are supplemental to and in aid of powers now vested in the Governor of the State of Florida under the Constitution, statutory laws and police powers of said State.

Section 5. It is declared to be the legislative intent that, if any section, subsection, sentence, clause or provision of this act is held invalid, the remainder of the act shall not be affected.

Section 6. This Act shall take effect immediately upon its becoming a law and shall continue in full force and effect until July 1, 1961.

Approved by the Governor August 1, 1956.

Filed in Office Secretary of the State August 1, 1956.

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CHAPTER 31380

SENATE BILL NO. 11-XX

AN ACT relating to the management of the public schools at the local level; prescribing student admission policies with power to make appropriate rules and regulations and providing for the review of actions taken pursuant thereto; prescribing the duties of certain officials; authorizing the creation of advisory committees and study groups; authorizing employment of legal counsel; providing for surveys; authorizing redistricting of attendance areas and reallocation of school bus transportation routes; all pursuant to the police and welfare powers of the State; repealing Section 230.23 (6) g., Florida Statutes; providing effective date.

WHEREAS, this Act is enacted under the police and public welfare powers of the State to promote the health, safety, good order and education of the people within the State of Florida.

Now, therefore,

*Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:*

Section 1. The county board of public instruction of the several counties are hereby authorized and directed to provide for the enrollment in a public school in the county of each child residing in such county who is qualified under the laws of this state for admission to a public school and who applies for enrollment in or admission to a public school in such county. The authority of each such board in the matter of the enrollment of pupils in the public schools shall be full and complete. No pupil shall be enrolled in or admitted to attend any public school in which such child may not be enrolled pursuant to the rules, regulations and decisions of such board.

Section 2. In the exercise of the authority conferred by Section 1 of this Act upon the county boards of public instruction each such board shall provide for the enrollment of pupils in the respective public schools located within such county so as to provide for the orderly and efficient administration of such public schools, the effective instruction of the pupils therein enrolled, and the health, safety, education and general welfare of such pupils. In the exercise of such authority the board shall prescribe school attendance areas and school bus transportation routes and may adopt such reasonable rules and regulations as

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in the opinion of the board shall best accomplish such purposes. The county boards of public instruction shall prescribe appropriate rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this subsection and other applicable laws of this state and to that end may use all means legitimate, necessary and proper to promote the health, safety, good order, education and welfare of the public schools and the pupils enrolling therein or seeking to enroll therein. In the accomplishment of these objectives the rules and regulations to be prescribed by the Board may include, but be not limited to, provisions for the conduct of such uniform tests as may be deemed necessary or advisable in classifying the pupils according to intellectual ability and scholastic proficiency to the end that there will be established in each school within the county an environment of equality among pupils of like qualifications and academic attainments. In the preparation and conduct of such tests and in classifying the pupils for assignment to the schools which they will attend, the board shall take into account such sociological, psychological and like intangible social scientific factors as will prevent, as nearly as practicable, any condition of socio-economic class consciousness among the pupils attending any given school in order that each pupil may be afforded an opportunity for a normal adjustment to his environment and receive the highest standard of instruction within his ability to understand and assimulate. In designating the school to which pupils may be assigned there shall be taken into consideration the available facilities and teaching capacity of the several schools within the county, the effect of the admission of new students upon established academic programs, the suitability of established curriculum to the students enrolled or to be enrolled in a given school, the scholastic appitude, intelligence, mental energy or ability of the pupil applying for admission and the psychological, moral, ethical and cultural background and qualifications of the pupil applying for admission as compared with other pupils previously assigned to the school in which admission is sought. It is the intention of the legislature to hereby delegate to the local school boards all necessary and proper administrative authority to prescribe such rules and regulations and to make such decisions and determinations as may be requisite for such purposes.

Section 3. a. The parent or guardian of any child, or the person standing in loco parentis to any child who shall apply to the appropriate public school official for the enrollment of any such

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child in any public school within the county in which such child resides, and whose application for such enrollment shall be denied may, pursuant to rules and regulations established by the county boards of public instruction, apply to such board for enrollment in such school and shall be entitled to a prompt and fair hearing by such board in accordance with the rules and regulations established by such board. The majority of such board shall be a quorum for the purpose of holding such hearing and passing upon such application and the decision of the majority of the members present at such hearing shall be the decision of the board. If at such hearing the board shall find that such child is entitled to be enrolled in such school or if the board shall find that the enrollment of such child in such school will be for the best interest of such child and will not interfere with the proper administration of the school or with the proper instruction of the pupils there enrolled and will not endanger the health or safety of the pupils there enrolled, the board shall direct that such child be enrolled in and admitted to such school. If the board finds that the child is not entitled to be enrolled in such school or that his enrollment in such school would not be for the best interest of the child or that his enrollment would seriously interfere with the proper administration of such school or with the proper instruction of the pupils there enrolled or that the child's admission to such school would endanger the health or safety of the children there enrolled, the board shall deny the petition for enrollment and direct the enrollment of the child in such other school in the county as shall be determined by the board to be best adapted or qualified to serve the best interests of the child and of the public school system.

b. If a parent or guardian of any child whose application for enrollment has been denied, or the person standing in loco parentis to any such child, shall be dissatisfied with the decision of any county board with respect to the school in which such child shall be enrolled, such parent or guardian, or such person standing in loco parentis to such child, may seek a review of such decision by making and filing with the State Board of Education within thirty (30) days after the rendition of such decision, an application for review thereof, and as soon as practicable, but not later than thirty (30) days after receiving such application, the State Board of Education shall cause the county school board, whose decision is sought to be reviewed, to transmit to it the transcript of the evidence in such case before them, and within

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said thirty (30) day period of time affirm, reverse or modify said decision or remand the matter to the county board for further proceedings, provided, however, that the State Board of Education may, in its discretion, take or direct to be taken any additional evidence or testimony and may consider such additional testimony in connection with the original transcript, and shall affirm, reverse or modify the decision of the board of public instruction or remand the matter to the county board for further proceedings, and in all such proceedings, the county superintendent of public instruction and the board of public instruction of said county shall be notified and shall be considered as a party to the review.

In addition to the matters and things set forth herein to be considered by the county board of public instruction in the assignment of such pupil to a school, the State Board of Education may take into consideration any matter and thing which in its judgment and discretion relates to the welfare, safety, well-being, peace and tranquility of the community or area affected, and taking all such matters into consideration, shall render its decision, either reversing the action or actions theretofore taken as provided above or modifying the decision or decisions previously taken, or remand the matter to the county board of public instruction for further proceedings.

c. Any parent or guardian of any child or the person standing in loco parentis to any child, or a majority of the board of public instruction of any county affected by the decision of the State Board of Education, and who is dissatisfied therewith, may appeal such decision as a matter of right to the Circuit Court of Leon County, Florida, within thirty (30) days after the rendition of the said decision by the Board. The appeal shall be heard by the Circuit Court upon the record certified by the Board, which shall include a copy of the transcript of evidence, and such documents and exhibits as may have been filed before the Board, as either party may request. The Circuit Court may affirm, reverse, modify or remand the cause to the Board for further proceedings. An appeal from the decision of the Board to the Circuit Court shall be taken by filing a written notice with the Board. Said notice of appeal shall be served personally, or by mailing a true copy thereof by registered mail within five (5) days after the same is filed to the attorney of record for the interested parties. The notice shall fix the return date of the appeal. The ap-

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peal shall be returnable before the Circuit Court of Leon County to a date not less than thirty (30) days and not more than sixty (60) days from the date the decision appealed from is filed in the office of the Board. Except where it is inconsistent herewith, the statutes and rules governing appeals in chancery shall govern appeals provided for herein. In all such appeals the Board shall be the sole party respondent, and the Attorney General of the State of Florida shall be given notice of such appeal and shall take such action therein as he shall be directed by the Board.

d. In any proceeding brought pursuant to the provisions of this section the Attorney General of the State of Florida is authorized upon request to furnish representation to the County School Board, and to represent the State Board of Education of the State of Florida, as the case may be, and upon request shall furnish such services as may be necessary to properly present and defend the action of the public bodies and officials charged with the responsibility of administering the provisions of this chapter.

e. Reviews by the State Board of Education of the State of Florida of any decisions rendered by the County School Boards in the state shall be considered and construed as a step in the local proceeding.

Section 4. The county school boards of the public schools of Florida are authorized and empowered to conduct surveys within their respective counties to determine the attitudes and feelings of the citizens of their respective communities with the subsequent purpose of formulating plans to maintain, preserve and improve the public school system of Florida.

Section 5. The county school boards are authorized and empowered to create and appoint citizens committees and study groups from their localities to assist in the aforementioned surveys and plans.

Section 6. The county school boards shall be authorized to employ special counsel to assist the county school board's attorney in representing the board in any litigation involving rules and regulations and rulings and decisions of the board under the provisions of this act.

Section 7. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase

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or word of this Act is for any reason held or declared to be unconstitutional, invalid, inoperative, ineffective, inapplicable, or void, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not be construed to affect the portions of the Act not so held to be unconstitutional, void, invalid or ineffective, or affect the application of this Act to other circumstances not so held to be invalid, it being hereby declared to be the express legislative intent that any such unconstitutional, illegal, invalid, ineffective, inapplicable or void, portion or portions of this act did not induce its passage, and that without the inclusion of any such unconstitutional, illegal, invalid, ineffective or void portions of this act, the legislature would have enacted the valid and constitutional portions thereof.

Section 8. Section 230.23(6) (g), Florida Statutes, is hereby repealed.

Section 9. This act shall take effect immediately upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor July 26, 1956.

Filed in Office Secretary of the State July 27, 1956.

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CHAPTER 31390

SENATE BILL NO. 13-XX

**AN ACT** in aid of existing powers and to confer additional powers upon the Governor of the State of Florida; to authorize and empower the Governor of the State of Florida to protect the public against violence, property damage and overt threats of violence; to issue his proclamation and order; to order and direct any person, corporation, association, or group of persons, to prevent or refrain from causing damage to life, limb or property, or a breach of the peace; to authorize and direct the State Militia, the sheriffs, or the State Highway Patrol, or any state or county official of the State of Florida to maintain peace and good order, to provide for the enforcement of the Governor's proclamation relating to the same by all the courts of the State of Florida, providing for the time limit within which this Act shall be effective.

WHEREAS, the State of Florida, through its constituted officials under the Constitution, statutory law and police power of the State, may control violence (threatened or actual against persons or property); and, whereas, the State has the dominant interest in and is the natural guardian of the public against violence and is empowered under the general sovereign authority of the State to prevent violence and overt threats of violence;

THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA:

Section 1. The Governor of the State of Florida is hereby authorized and empowered to take such measures and to do all and every act and thing which he may deem necessary in order to prevent overt threats of violence or violence, to the person or property of citizens of the State and to maintain peace, tranquillity and good order in the State, and in any political subdivision thereof, and in any area of the State of Florida designated by him.

Section 2. The Governor of the State of Florida when, in his opinion, the facts warrant, shall, by proclamation, declare that, because of unlawful assemblage, violence, overt threats of violence, or otherwise, a danger exists to the person or property of any citizen or citizens of the State of Florida and that the peace and tranquillity of the State of Florida, or any political subdivision thereof, or any area of the State of Florida designated by him, is threatened, and because thereof an emergency, with reference

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to said threats and danger, exists. In all such cases when the Governor of the State of Florida shall issue his proclamation as herein provided he shall be and is hereby further authorized and empowered, to cope with said threats and danger, to order and direct any individual person, corporation, association or group of persons to do any act which would in his opinion prevent danger to life, limb or property, prevent a breach of the peace or he may order such individual person, corporation, association or group of persons to refrain from doing any act or thing which would, in his opinion, endanger life, limb, or property, or cause, or tend to cause, a breach of the peace, or endanger the peace and good order of society, and shall have full power by appropriate means to enforce such order or proclamation.

Section 3. The Governor of the State of Florida, upon the issuance of a proclamation as provided for in Section 2 hereof shall forthwith file the same in the office of the Secretary of State for recording, which proclamation shall be effective upon issuance and remain in full force and effect until revoked by the Governor, and he is hereby authorized and empowered to take and exercise any, either or all of the following actions, powers and perogatives:

(a) Call out the military forces of the State (State Militia) and order and direct said forces to take such action as in his judgment may be necessary to avert the threatened danger and to maintain peace and good order in the particular circumstances.

(b) Order any sheriff or sheriffs of this State, pursuant to a proclamation as herein provided, to exercise fully the powers granted them, and each of them, under paragraph 7 of Section 30.15, Florida Statutes 1955, (suppress tumults, riots and unlawful assemblies in their counties with force and strong hand when necessary) and to do all things necessary to maintain peace and good order.

(c) Order and direct the State Highway Patrol, and each and every officer thereof, to do and perform such acts and services as he may direct and in his judgment necessary in the circumstances to maintain peace and good order.

(d) Authorize, order or direct any State, county or city official to enforce the provisions of such proclamation in each and every and all of the courts in the State of Florida by injunction, mandamus, or other appropriate legal action.

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Section 4. The Governor of the State of Florida is hereby authorized and empowered to intervene in any situation where there exists violence, overt threats of violence to persons or property and take complete control thereof to prevent violence, or to quell violence or any disturbance or disorder which threatens the peace and good order of society.

Section 5. The powers herein granted are supplemental to and in aid of powers now vested in the Governor of the State of Florida under the Constitution, statutory laws and police powers of said State.

Section 6. This Act shall take effect immediately upon its becoming a law and shall continue in full force and effect until July 1, 1961.

Approved by the Governor Aug. 1, 1956.

Filed in Office Secretary of the State Aug. 1, 1956.

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## CHAPTER 31391

## SENATE BILL NO. 12-XX

**AN ACT** relating to public school personnel, amending Subsection (2) of Section 231.36, Florida Statutes, as enacted by Section 1, Chapter 29890, Acts of 1955, authorizing the County Board of Public Instruction to choose school personnel from all available personnel and certificated teachers when said Board is required to or does consolidate its school program at any school center and to dismiss any teacher or teachers not needed without regard to any previous contractural relationship; providing that the decision of said Board shall be final and providing an effective date.

*Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:*

Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 231.36, Florida Statutes, being section 1 of chapter 29890, acts 1955, is amended to read:

231.36 *Contracts with instructional staff and with professional administrative assistants.—*

(2) Should the county board of public instruction have to choose from among its personnel who are on continuing contracts as to which should be retained, among the criteria to be considered shall be educational qualifications, efficiency, compatibility, character, and capacity to meet the educational needs of the community. Whenever a county board is required to or does consolidate its school program at any given school center by bringing together pupils theretofore assigned to separated schools, the county board may determine on the basis of the foregoing criteria from its own personnel, and any other certificated teachers, which teachers shall be employed for service at this school center, and any teacher no longer needed may be dismissed. The decision of the board shall not be controlled by any previous contractural relationship. In the evaluation of these factors the decision of the county board of public instruction shall be final.

Section 2. It is declared to be the legislative intent that if any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or provision of this act is held invalid, the remainder of the act shall not be affected.

Section 3. This act shall become effective immediately upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor August 1, 1956.

Filed in Office Secretary of the State August 1, 1956.

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## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 17-XX

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION denouncing the usurpation of power by the Supreme Court of the United States and demanding the preservation of our inherent rights.

WHEREAS, in the life of a democratic nation when it becomes necessary for the people to take notice of and enter a solemn protest against any usurpation of power by those who have been entrusted with high public office, and to demand, as of right, that public officers remain subservient to the people and that they desist from assuming powers which have not, by the people, been placed in their hands, the opinions of their fellow men require that the people set forth in clear and unmistakable language the causes which impel them to such action.

To the end that the declarations now about to be made may be thoroughly understood, and the motives which impel them may be fully appreciated, we first pronounce the following principles, each of which we hold to be an integral part of our American System of Government:

—1—

All political power is inherent in the people and all government derives all its powers from the consent of the governed.

—2—

When the people form a government by the adoption of a written constitution the words of that constitution are but the instrumentalities by which ideas, principles and plans present in the minds of those who adopt the constitution are recorded for accuracy and for preservation to posterity.

—3—

Those who are temporarily invested with power over their fellow countrymen, by being chosen to occupy public offices provided for in a constitution, are charged with a solemn responsibility to exercise only such powers as, under such constitution, have been entrusted to them.

—4—

A division of the powers of government into three departments, executive, legislative and judicial is expressed or implied in every constitution of the American union, including the constitution of the United States.

—5—

The constitution of the United States is a grant of powers to the central federal government, and all powers not delegated to the federal government by the constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states, or to the people.

—6—

The judicial powers delegated to the federal government are vested by the constitution in the federal judiciary and include the power to interpret, construe and apply the constitution of the United States.

—7—

The power to interpret, construe and apply the constitution is limited to an ascertainment of the ideas, principles and thoughts that were in the minds of those who drafted and adopted the constitution, including amendments thereto, and the application of those ideas, principles and thoughts to particular factual situations from time to time presented to the courts. The application of constitutional principles may differ with changing conditions, but the principles themselves are unchanging and unchangeable except by the people and then only by the method provided in the constitution.

—8—

A judicial construction of the constitution enunciated by the supreme court of the United States and understood and acquiesced in by the executive department, the congress and the people over a long period of time becomes as much a part of the fundamental law of the land as that which has been written in the constitution itself, and is binding equally upon the people, the states of the union, and the supreme court of the United States.

—9—

The constitution of the United States may be amended only in the manner provided in that constitution. In the course of history since the adoption of the constitution the people have twenty-one times found it expedient to amend the constitution, and when that unanimity of public opinion which justifies a change in the constitution has developed among the people they have found no difficulty in effecting the changes they found desirable.

—10—

The assumption by any public official, or group of public officials, of power to change the meaning of the constitution of



the United States, other than by the method provided by article V of the constitution, is an abuse of public trust and a tyrannical usurpation of power; and

WHEREAS, under the constitution of the United States when evidences of the assumption of tyrannical powers appear in the executive or in the congress the people may, by means of the ballot, protect and preserve their liberties by the repudiation of those in office. But when the federal judiciary, which is insulated from the heat of political differences by the life tenure of i membership, enters upon a course of action inimicable to the rights of the people, this method of reform is unavailable. Under such circumstances those restraints which characterize men capable of self-government require that by orderly and peaceable means the inherent and unalienable rights and powers of the people shall be utilized to restore those rights of which they have unjustly and unlawfully been deprived.

We call to the attention of all thinking Americans the following unwarranted and unauthorized acts of invasion of the powers reserved to the states and to the people:

(1) *By decisions rendered May 17, 1954, in Brown vs. Board of Education of Topeka, Harry Briggs, Jr., et. al., vs. R. W. Elliott, et al., Dorothy E. Davis, et. al., vs. County School Board of Prince Edward County, Virginia, Frances B. Gebhart, et al., vs. Ethel Louise Belton, et al., 347 US 483, 98 L. Ed. 873,* the supreme court of the United States denied to the sovereign states of the American union the power to regulate public education by the use of practices first declared constitutional by the state of Massachusetts, adopted by the congress, approved by the executive, affirmed and reaffirmed by the supreme court of the United States and practiced by states for more than a century.

It has based these decisions upon matters of fact as to which the parties affected were not given an opportunity to offer evidence or cross examine the witnesses against them.

It has cited as authority for the assumed and asserted facts the unsworn writings of men, one of whom was the hireling of an active participant in the litigation. Others were affiliated with organizations declared by the attorney general of the United States to be subversive, and one of whom, in the same writing which the court cited as authority for its decision stated that the con-

stitution of the United States is "impractical and unsuited to modern conditions".

In reaching its conclusion the supreme court has disregarded its former pronouncements and attempted to justify such action by the expedient of imputing ignorance of psychology to men whose knowledge of the law and understanding of the constitution could not be impugned, and has expressly predicated its determination of the rights of the people of the several sovereign states of the American union upon the psychological conclusions of Kotinsky, Brameld and Myrdal, and their ilk, rather than the legal conclusions of Taft, Holmes, Van Devanter, Brandeis and their contemporaries upon the bench.

In reaching its conclusion the court, professing itself to be unable to ascertain the intent of those who adopted the fourteenth amendment to the constitution, arbitrarily chose to repudiate the solemn declaration of its meaning rendered under the sanctity of their oath of office by the justices of the supreme court of the United States at a time when all of its members were contemporaries of those who proposed, discussed, debated, submitted and adopted the amendment.

However, much as citizens of other states may approve and applaud these decisions, they dare not embrace the theory upon which they are based nor the fallacies therein contained lest they themselves by the application of the same theory and fallacies bring destruction to their institutions and to their liberties.

(2) *In a decision rendered May 21, 1956, in Railway Employees Department, American Federation of Labor, International Association of Machinists, et al., vs. Robert L. Hanson, et al., —— US ——, 100 L. Ed. (advance) p. 633,* the supreme court of the United States held that a union shop agreement negotiated between certain railroads and certain organizations of employees of such railroads which had been authorized by an act of the congress superseded the right-to-work provisions of the constitution of the state of Nebraska and the state statutes enacted pursuant thereto.

The effect of this decision, made in a case instituted by free American citizens to enforce their rights under the constitution of the United States, was to deny these American citizens the right to work at their chosen trade unless they became members of and contributed to the funds of organizations to which they



did not wish to belong and to which they did not wish to contribute of their substance.

The effect of this decision was to advise these free American citizens that their right to be immune from any deprivation of liberty or property without due process of law, supposedly guaranteed to them by their federal constitution, did not extend to their right to work, supposedly guaranteed by the constitution of their state, as against the demands of a nonofficial labor organization that they pay to it money to be expended in the negotiation of labor contracts, the terms of which these citizens might or might not seek or desire.

The effect of this decision is to vest in the congress the power to prohibit, permit, or require, closed shops, union shops or open shops or to outlaw unions in each and every industry in America whose activities come within the present expanded concept of interstate commerce.

The effect of this decision is to abrogate, with respect to all employment in interstate business, the constitutions and laws of those seventeen sovereign American states which have sought to protect the rights of their citizens to a free and open labor market, making union membership optional with each worker, protecting him on the one hand from an employer who might desire the destruction of the union, and on the other hand from the union which might desire to exploit him or advocate policies which he did not endorse.

(3) *By a decision rendered January 16, 1956, Dantan George Rea vs. United States of America, —— US ——, 100 L. Ed. (advance) p. 213,* the supreme court of the United States held that it was within the power of the federal courts to enjoin an officer of the executive department of the federal government from testifying in the courts of the state of New Mexico in a criminal prosecution of one charged with a violation of a statute of that state prohibiting the possession of marihuana.

In so doing the court assumed power to direct the activities of executive officers of the federal government to the extent of forbidding them from testifying voluntarily, or under the process of a state court, as to matters within their knowledge in a case in which no question of privilege or national security was involved.

In so doing the court assumed power to control the administration of local justice in state courts by the indirect method of forbidding witnesses to testify in such state courts while giving lip service to the letter of the rule which denies to the federal courts any power to control the acts or proceedings of state courts.

In so doing the court assumed power to fix the rules of evidence which should control the administration of justice in state courts.

In so doing the supreme court refused to follow the law as established by former decisions of that court, which were followed and adhered to for many years.

(4) *By a decision rendered April 2, 1956, in Commonwealth of Pennsylvania vs. Steve Nelson ——US——, 100 L. Ed. (advance) p. 415,* the supreme court of the United States has declared that, so long as the present federal law providing punishment for sedition exists, the sovereign state of Pennsylvania and those forty-one of her sister states who have enacted laws against sedition, are without power to enforce their statutes enacted for the purpose of preserving the lives and safety of their citizens from those who would by force and violence overthrow the government of the United States, the states themselves, or any of their political subdivisions.

This decision was rendered in the case of an acknowledged member of the communist party who had been duly convicted in the constitutional trial courts of Pennsylvania of violating the sedition laws of that commonwealth.

In reaching the conclusion announced, the supreme court refused to follow the previously accepted construction and interpretation of the constitution of the United States as stated in unmistakable language in prior decisions of that court.

In reaching the announced conclusion, the court decried, and seemed to find obnoxious the fact that under the Pennsylvania law a private citizen could set in motion the legal processes by which those charged with conspiracy against the government of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania could be brought to trial and, if found guilty, be punished by due course of Pennsylvania law.

In reaching the announced conclusion the court dismissed with



a casual comment in a footnote to its decision the solemn declaration of the congress that "Nothing in this title shall be held to take away or impair the jurisdiction of the courts of the several states under the laws thereof."

In reaching the announced conclusion the court did not limit the impact of its judgment to statutes involving sedition against the government of the United States, but expressly pointed out that a state has no power to enact laws for its own protection, but must rely upon the federal authorities for the suppression of sedition against the state itself or its political subdivisions.

(5) *In a decision rendered April 23, 1956, in Judson Griffin, et al. vs. People of the state of Illinois, —— US ——, 100 L. Ed. (advance) p. 483,* the supreme court of the United States held that the due process and equal protection clauses of the constitution of the United States rendered illegal the imprisonment of one charged with armed robbery and duly convicted in the trial court of Illinois, unless the state of Illinois provided the defendant, free of charge, with a transcript of the proceedings to be used in an appeal of his conviction.

The basis of this decision was that, since the law of Illinois authorized appeals in criminal cases, and the particular defendant in question was insolvent, the fourteenth amendment required the state to pay the costs of his appeal.

The effect of this decision is to place upon each of the states the duty of guaranteeing the financial ability of every citizen to exercise constitutional rights.

(6) *By a decision rendered April 9, 1956, in Harry Slochower vs. Board of Higher Education of the city of New York, — US —, 100 L. Ed. (advance) p. 449,* the supreme court of the United States held that the city of New York had violated the constitution of the United States by the summary discharge of a public employee who had refused to answer questions relative to his communistic activities and claimed the benefit of the fifth amendment to the constitution in so doing.

In so holding the court held invalid a charter provision of the city of New York designed to provide for the removal, as quickly as possible, of those public employees who were deemed by the people of that great city to be unfit to be entrusted with any part in the administration of the public affairs of the city.

In so holding the court revoked the prompt removal from a state school of a teacher whose influence was deemed by the school authorities to be inimicable to the best interests of the students in such school.

In so holding the court construed the due process clause of the constitution to give to the federal courts the power to examine into minute details of all administrative state action and to apply arbitrarily to such state action the personal concepts of the justices of the supreme court rather than fixed principles of constitutional law; and

WHEREAS, these, and other decisions of the supreme court of the United States, can lead the student of law, of government, or of history to but one unavoidable conclusion:

As presently constituted, the supreme court of the United States has embraced the philosophy that the constitution of the United States is not a declaration of fixed or definite principles, unchanging in their meaning, although varying in their application to different factual situations. On the contrary, recent decisions are obviously the result of a theory that changing conditions and variations in social and economic practices justify the court in changing, by judicial fiat, the meaning of the constitution in order that it may serve what the members of the court deem to be the best interests of the people.

Unless the application of this concept of the powers of the supreme court of the United States in regard to the rights of the people, the powers of the different departments of government, and the separate and distinct powers of the states and of the federal government be stopped, the inevitable result will be to end the American system of constitutional government, and to substitute therefor government by a judicial oligarchy under which the states, and the executive and legislative departments of the federal government may exercise only such powers as the federal judiciary deems fit to permit them to exercise; and NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING:

Section 1. That we the PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, speaking by and through our duly elected representatives in



the senate and the house of representatives of the state of Florida, do hereby solemnly declare:

(1) That the supreme court of the United States of America as presently constituted knowingly, wilfully, and over the most respectful protest of litigants before the court, including many of the sovereign states of the union, has determined to, and has entered upon a policy of substituting the personal and individual ideas of the members of the court as to what the constitution of the United States should be for the letter of the constitution as it was written by our forefathers, the meaning of the constitution as it was understood by those who drafted it and voted for its adoption, and the intent of the constitution as it has been declared by the highest court of the nation over many years and in many able decisions.

(2) That the personal, social, economic and political ideas of the members of the supreme court of the United States do not constitute the proper criterion for the admeasurement of states rights or the powers of the several departments of the federal government or the rights of individual citizens.

(3) That acts of the federal judiciary in willfully asserting a meaning of the constitution unsupported by the written document, the history of the times in which it was adopted, the construction placed upon it by contemporary courts and the meaning ascribed to it by the people for generations constitutes usurpation of power which, if condoned by the people and allowed to continue, will destroy the American system of government.

Section 2. That, if wise and beneficent men may make changes in the constitution that are beneficial in the light of changing conditions, others may, with equal propriety make changes which will destroy the rights of the people. It was to guard against conferring the power upon public officials to make mistakes that the people reserved unto themselves the power to amend the constitution when changing conditions demand a change in the basic law.

That while disobedience to constituted authority is the mother of anarchy, it is the history of free men that they will not supinely permit government to become the master of the people, and will never yield unrestrained authority to any group of public officers.

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Section 3. That it is the duty of every public official sworn to support the constitution of the United States, and of every citizen who would maintain the principles of government under which this nation has grown to its present greatness, regardless of their views as to the abstract justice of the result of any of the acts of usurpation herein enumerated to insist, and we do hereby insist and demand that the supreme court of the United States recede from its arbitrary assertion of power to change the fundamental law of the land to meet the personal views of its members as to the present needs of the people, leaving to the people themselves the responsibility of determining when, and to what extent, their constitution should be amended.

Section 4. That, and to this end we respectfully and earnestly urge the executive officers of the nation, the congress of the United States, the governor and the attorney general of each of our sister states, and the bar of America, the traditional defender of constitutional government, and all who love and revere the constitution of the United States, to join us in this declaration, and to do everything within the scope of their personal and official authority to initiate and effect an amendment to article X of the constitution of the United States defining the powers reserved to the respective sovereign states, enumerating and defining the powers so reserved to include, among others, the power to regulate the fields of activity mentioned in this report.

Section 5. That copies of this resolution be sent to the chief executive officers of each state in the union, the members of congress of the United States, the attorney general of each sister state, the American Bar Association and to any other persons designated by the members of the legislature.

Approved by the Governor August 1, 1956.

Filed in Office Secretary of State August 1, 1956.

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NAACP vs. Florida
Tampa Florida

August 29, 1956

Mr. Francisco A. Rodriguez
Attorney at Law
703 Harrison Street
Tampa 2, Florida

Dear Rod:

I have your letter of August 22. I was in Miami and had an occasion to discuss this matter with Graves. It appears to me that at least something of a preliminary nature has been decided upon and I have been looking forward to his sending me certain papers in connection therewith. At any rate, I shall inform Bob of your desire to see him as soon as he returns to the office which shall be within the next few days.

Very truly yours,

Jack Greenberg
Assistant Counsel

JG:arw

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PHONE 2-2218

Francisco A. Rodriguez
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR
AT LAW
703 HARRISON STREET
TAMPA 2, FLORIDA

August 22, 1956

3 1661 AUG 23 56

Mr. Jack Greenberg
107 West 43rd Street
New York 36, New York

Dear Jack:

The measure setting up a committee to investigate the NAACP became a law Monday, August 20, 1956. I have already taken what I consider preliminary measures to protect the vulnerble individuals and to render whatever meager advice that I have on the subject. As a matter of fact, I have just returned from a visit to Branches through out the State which covered 1045 miles, and I plan to confer with more Branches this week. I consider any gesture that I might make quite inadequate since I am conversant with the legal niceties that are involved in committee investigations.

Bill Fordham and I talked to day and we would like, if it is humanly possible to have Bob Carter or someone from the National Office to come down immediately and advise us as to what is the best course to follow. The investigation gets under way September 1, 1956, therefore, we have very little time in which to gird ourselves for the onslaught, whose ultimate purpose is the outlawing of the NAACP.

As ever,

Rod

FAR/jjg

cc: Bill Fordham

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
20 WEST 40th STREET, NEW YORK 18, N. Y.
LOngacre 3-6890

*Please direct reply to:*
Robert Saunders
1404½ Central Avenue
Tampa 2, Florida

Florida
State Action

22841 SEP 4 '56

Aug 31, 1956

Mr. Gloster B . Current
Director of Branches, NAACP
20 West 40th Street
N ew York 18, New York

Dear Gloster:

As per your request via telephone, full texts of the Bills enacted and made law in Florida by the last special session have been mailed to Mr. Wilkins and Mr. Marshall. Copies were mailed on August 29, 1956 from Tallahassee. A copy was also given to Mr. Rodriguez, our counsel for Florida.

Very truly yours,
Bob
Bob Saunders

cc: Mr. William A. Fordham

P.S. The KKK is using the postal service as a means to recruit members, can anything be done about this?

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APPLICATION 22841 SEP 4 '56

*Knights of the*

# KU KLUX KLAN

Open to all White Americans Who believe in SEGREGATION
Send to: POST OFFICE BOX 708, PINELLAS PARK, FLORIDA
Reinstatement Three Dollars NEW MEMBERS TEN DOLLARS
If membership is not possible, a donation will be appreciated.
Three Dollars must be sent with each Application.
If accepted you will be notified; If rejected money will be refunded.

Name_____ Telephone_____

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
20 WEST 40th STREET, NEW YORK 18, N. Y.
LOngacre 3-6890

*Please direct reply to:*

Robert Saunders
~~1004½ Central Avenue~~
Tampa 2, Florida
705 E. Harrison St.

23599 SEP 13 '56

September 12, 1956

Mr. Roy Wilkins
Executive Secretary, NAACP
20 West 40th Street
New York 18, New York

Dear Sir:

The Legislative Committee met for the first time yesterday to formerly organize for the purpose of "investigating the activities of the ASSOCIATION" in Florida. I have sent copies of the legislative enactments which were passed and which have become law to you which I feel fully explains the purpose of the group.

I am also sending a copy of this morning's Tampa Morning Tribune which carries a story on the meeting. It appears that there is some dissention over which body will rule the so-call investigation. The group of representatives appointed from the Florida House are said to be liberals while the other group from the Senate are known to be against any type of move to end segregation. This latter group are also from the Northernmost section of the States.

I also received a telephone call from a Law Firm called Fowler-White-Gillen-Yancey and Humkey. The secretary called at 8:25 this morning asking if I could tell where they could obtain copies of the Charter and Constitution of the NAACP. I refered them to you for such information.

A case against the West Palm Beach School Board was filed yesterday for Attorney William M Holland who was refused permission to register his child in a school for whites. The petition cites that the School Board did willfully refuse to grant admission to Holland's child and asks the court to declare the new Florida Student registration law "Unconstitutional." The State Conference is aiding Holland in this matter and the West Palm Beach Branch has been advised to lend all possible assistance.

Very truly yours,

Bob Saunders

Bob Saunders

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? State Action - Fla.
NAACP Constitution

October 19, 1956

David G. Hanlon, Esquire
Fowler, White, Gillen, Yancy & Humkey
Citizens Building
Tampa, Florida

Dear Mr. Hanlon:

I am sorry to have been so long in replying to your request of September 12. Your letter was referred to me as I was about to leave on an extended absence from my office, and I am only now getting back to it.

The constitution of the NAACP has been out of print for several years, and we are presently engaged in arranging for a new printing which will incorporate certain amendments adopted since the last publication. I shall be very glad to send you a copy when the new printing takes place. In the meantime, if there are specific questions, I would be very happy to attempt to answer them for you.

I enclose a recent pamphlet which incorporates much of importance regarding our aims, objectives and methods.

Very truly yours,

JAM:erb
Enclosure

John A. Morsell
Assistant to the Secretary

From L.J.C.

The Miami Herald
Oct. 19, 1956

# NAACP Probers Hire Attorney and Sleuth

## Pastors Ask for Inquiry

### Tallahassee Called Ripe Field for Quiz

TALLAHASSEE — (UP) — The legislative NAACP committee hired an attorney and chief investigator Thursday and turned over to them requests for an immediate investigation to determine if "outside elements" stirred up the bus boycott here by Negroes protesting segregated seating.

The committee hired Mark Hawes, Tampa, former assistant state attorney general, as chief counsel at $15,000 a year, and John Cye Cheasty, former secret service agent from New York, as investigator at $12,000.

Hawes, Cheasty and any available member of the committee were authorized to go to Texas to confer with the attorney general there on methods and progress of that state's investigation of the NAACP.

Hawes, 31, currently is prosecutor for the city in trial of

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chief investigator Thursday and turned over to them requests for an immediate investigation to determine if "outside elements" stirred up the bus boycott here by Negroes protesting segregated seating.

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Hawes, Cheasty and any available member of the committee were authorized to go to Texas to confer with the attorney general there on methods and progress of that state's investigation of the NAACP.

**Hawes, 31, currently is prosecutor for the city in trial of 21 Negroes and the Inter Civic Council on charges of operating an illegal car pool to boycott city buses. He will take up his committee assignment Oct. 22. Cheasty's employment is effective immediately.**

The joint House-Senate committee created to investigate the NAACP and report to the 1957 legislature received a request Thursday from the Florida ministers of World Baptist Fellowship to investigate whether the NAACP is behind the local boycott. The City Commission made a similar request.

The minister fellowship, headed by the Rev. W. E. Hall, pastor of Pine Level Baptist Church near Starke, wired the committee that "Tallahassee is a most strategic place for your committee to begin its work."

**"Since the city has expressed its desire to have your committee investigate the outside boycott, we urge you to use your committee to open up the element involved in the bus boycott, we urge you to use your committee to open up the facts in this affair and to prove yourselves worthy of the high responsibility placed upon you," said the wire signed by Hall.**

"It has been charged the NAACP is the organization stirring up this trouble. Your committee can reveal the facts and we sincerely hope you will do it." Hall served as state Senate chaplain when Charley Johns was Senate president. Johns is a member of the investigating committee.

Hawes, a graduate of the University of Florida and law partner of Tampa criminal attorney Pat Whitaker, was recommended by Atty. Gen. Richard Ervin. He will be made a special assistant attorney general during his committee assignment.

**Cheasty, 49, is an attorney with 26 years investigative experience as a secret service agent, special agent for the Internal Revenue Service, Navy counter-intelligence, assistant counsel to the New York Crime Commission and as a private attorney.**

The committee, which holds its next meeting here Nov. 13, adopted an iron-clad rule that no statements may be given the press except by Rep. Henry Land, Orlando chairman. The committee cautioned Hawes and Cheasty against making any public statements.

Mrs. Lamar Bledsoe, chief clerk of the House, will serve as chief clerk for the committee. Members besides Land and Johns are Sens. Dewey Johnson, Quincy and John Rawls, Marianna, and Reps. A. J. Musselman Jr., Pompano Beach, Cliff Herrell, Miami, and J. B. Hopkins, Pensacola.

67 Cong. Rec. Bo. 9-1275

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# Tampan Send Segregationist $100 Check

The Hillsborough County Federation for Constitutional Government reported yesterday that a check for $100 had been sent to the Tennessee Federation to help finance the defense of John Kasper, under sentence for contempt of court in the Tennessee integration disturbances.

In a letter addressed to Dudley Gale at Nashville, Tenn., Sumter L. Lowry, Jr., chairman, said:

"The federation is happy to contribute in a small way to the defense of this courageous white man who was sentenced to a year's imprisonment for daring to exercise the right of free speech at Clinton, Ten.

"We are not surprised that Kasper was arbitrarily sentenced in Communist fashion, without benefit of a jury trial. Much of the Federal Government is already in the hands of Communists who propose to undermine the South by means of race-poisoning and mongrelization. They cannot succeed in this without first restricting freedom of speech.

"Undoubtedly it will take a long and bitter struggle before we can reestablish, in the law, the principle that white people are entitled to remain white; to reproduce their own kind; and to pass on their heritage, uncorrupted, to posterity. However, our people have endured and overcome oppression many times before and will do so again."

Lowry said the Hillsborough federation has some 550 members and listed its directors as Herbert S. Phillips, R. V. Patterson, L. A. Grayson Louva E. Turner, Harry B. Terrell, Ruth Bowdoin, Grady Albritton, Coy Bowdoin, and himself.

Tampa Morning Tribune
Sept. 12, 1956

# Senator See Repercussions As House Member Named To Head NAACP Probe Group

(Continued from Page 1)

ing and the six members present left the room. Senator Rawls had Johns' proxy.

In five minutes they were back and one of them told newsmen he and another member refused to attend a private meeting.

So the fight over the chairmanship was fought in the open.

David denied reports that Rep. Jack Orr of Dade County, a member of the NAACP, or Gov. LeRoy Collins, had conferred with him on the house members' choices.

David urged the committee to be particularly careful not to permit use of its powers to "smear some innocent person."

That led Johnson and Land to point out the committee might be forced to hold some secret meetings so witnesses could talk without fear of exposure.

Hopkins asked, "Can we offer immunity from prosecution if some people will come in and spill their guts?"

Johnson said not, but that the committee could assure that no publicity would be given testimony. He said otherwise, "much of the information we need won't be forthcoming."

**Barrage of Questions**

The committee ran into a barrage of questions and protests from newsmen on the subject of secret meetings and release of information.

One reporter warned the committee the establishment of such meetings would simply spur newsmen to "dig away at" sources on and near the body to learn what happened in the secret sessions.

Land, Johnson and other committeemen agree they would not hold secret meetings unless necessary for the protection of witnesses.

Land also indicated the investigative body might sell out and operate under rules set up by former State Rep. James A. Haley's "little Kefauver" committee, and by rules of the Kefauver committee itself.

**Asks Member Gag**

Johnson called for an "ironclad rule that" no member of the committee be authorized to release information "on any person investigated or the results of that investigation, without approval of a majority of the committee."

He suggested the chairman make all such [illegible] Representative Hopkins.

asked if the committee were entitled to claim actual expenses rather than the state per diem during its operations. Johnson and Land said they felt this to be the case, but that Land would check with the attorney general.

Land will also get an opinion from the attorney general on subpoena powers, and will check to learn whether the state can provide a full-time lawyer to work for the committee.

Committeemen indicated they expect eventually to have to employ a permanent lawyer for the body.

**To Hire Investigators**

Committeemen agreed to convene on or prior to Oct. 5 at Tallahassee to choose a permanent investigator, preferably with FBI and legal background, decide on a secretary and headquarters and set up plans for legal counsel.

They will also begin hearing and sorting information from Florida sources relative to organizations allegedly aimed at disrupting state government, overthrowing the state constitution or threatening the public peace.

Organization of the committee saw Johnson named unanimously to the vice chairman's job, but there was little reason to hope for harmony on the dissension-ridden seven-member committee.

**May Avoid Conflict**

Some senate members have indicated the belief that the house majority group will try to avoid any conflict in investigating groups inside Florida.

The three senate members are from small North Florida counties known to be heavily and loudly in favor of cutting down on activities of the NAACP.

David at the time of the appointments of the four house members said all four, from large metropolitan areas primarily in South Florida — except for Hopkins from Pensacola—were named to "balance" the committee.

David today recommended use of Tallahassee as a permanent headquarters and suggested Mrs. Lamar Bledsoe, chief house clerk, as secretary until Nov. 6.

But Johnson disagreed, and urged that Mrs. Bledsoe be used only on a temporary basis, with arrangements to be made later for selection of a perma-

[illegible] secretary.

KNUT for FLOWERS

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State Action - Fla ?
NAACP Constitution

October 19, 1956

David G. Hanlon, Esquire
Fowler, White, Gillen, Yancy & Humkey
Citizens Building
Tampa, Florida

Dear Mr. Hanlon:

I am sorry to have been so long in replying to your request of September 12. Your letter was referred to me as I was about to leave on an extended absence from my office, and I am only now getting back to it.

The constitution of the NAACP has been out of print for several years, and we are presently engaged in arranging for a new printing which will incorporate certain amendments adopted since the last publication. I shall be very glad to send you a copy when the new printing takes place. In the meantime, if there are specific questions, I would be very happy to attempt to answer them for you.

I enclose a recent pamphlet which incorporates much of importance regarding our aims, objectives and methods.

Very truly yours,

JAM:erb
Enclosure

John A. Morsell
Assistant to the Secretary

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LAW OFFICES OF

FOWLER, WHITE, GILLEN, YANCEY AND HUMKEY

CITIZENS BUILDING

TAMPA, FLORIDA

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MORRIS WHITE
WILLIAM A. GILLEN
HERVEY YANCEY
WALTER B. HUMKEY
JOHN J. TRENAM
WILHELMINA HAWKINS
HENRY BURNETT
MICHAEL L. KINNEY
RICHARD F. RALPH
JAMES O. DAVIS, JR.
JAMES E. THOMPSON
GRANVILLE M. ALLEY, JR.
MARGARET E. DEATON
DAVID G. HANLON
LESLIE D. SCHARF
ALTON R. PITTMAN

MIAMI OFFICE

BISCAYNE BUILDING
MIAMI, FLORIDA

23663 SEP 14 '56

September 12, 1956

National Headquarters, NAACP
20 W. 40th Street
New York City, N.Y

Attention: Mr. Roy Wilkins

Dear Mr. Wilkins:

Please send us as soon as possible the Constitution for the NAACP.

Thanking you in advance for your prompt cooperation in this matter, we are

Very truly yours

FOWLER, WHITE, GILLEN, YANCEY & HUMKEY

By: David G. Hanlon
David G. Hanlon

DGH/jh

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# National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

## 17th Annual Session

OCTOBER 26 - 27
SARASOTA, FLA.

Florida State Conference of Branches

Phone 2-8619

705 E. Harrison Street — TAMPA 2, FLORIDA

WILLIAM A. FORDHAM, President
F. MALCOLM CUNNINGHAM, Vice President
REV. W. J. JOHNSON, Vice President
H. H. DIXON, Vice President
REV. LUCIOUS BURCH, Vice President
MRS. RUTH PERRY. Secretary

G. B. WASHINGTON, Chairman, Board of Directors
FR. THEO. R. GIBSON, Treasurer
F. A. RODRIGUEZ, Legal Counsel
R. W. SAUNDERS, Field Secretary

October 20, 1956

26185 OCT22'56

Mr. Roy Wilkins,
Executive Secretary, NAACP
20 W. 40th Street
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Wilkins:

Inclosed you will find artical from the Tampa Daily Times daily newspaper, dated October 19, 1956,

Robert W. Saunders,
Field Secretary, NAACP

RWS:hk

incl.

file
NAACP

Theme: "FREE BY '63"

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# Tampa Lawyer Hired in Probe Of NAACP

Tampa attorney Mark R. Hawes, presently serving as special city prosecutor in the Tallahassee car pool cases, has been named chief attorney for Florida's legislative committee investigating the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Hawes, associated in law practice here with Whitaker Brothers firm, was hired by the committee yesterday at a $1250 a month salary to handle the committee's legal work in checking the NAACP and other organizations.

**Native of Leon**

A native of Tallahassee, 31-year-old Hawes came to Tampa two and one half years ago after serving as an assistant attorney in the capital city. He is a graduate of University of Florida law school.

The committee also hired John C. Cheasty, New York City attorney with 26 years experience in investigating work, to be its chief investigator. He will be paid $1000 a month.

Cheasty went to work today, but Hawes won't get started until Monday after he has wound up his job as prosecutor in the car pool cases.

First assignment for Cheasty and Hawes will be an investigation into activities of groups involved in the five-month-old Tallahassee bus boycott.

The City of Tallahassee has asked the committee to look into the activities of groups there which are in violation of state law. The city's request made no reference to any specific organization or to the Negro bus boycott.

The car pool cases which Hawes is handling are an outgrowth of the boycott called in protest against segregated seating arrangements. Negroes operating the car pool during the boycott have been charged with operating an illegal transportation system.

**Ervin Aide**

Rep. Henry W. Land of Orlando, chairman of the legislative committee, announced that Hawes would be on the staff of Attorney General Richard Ervin as a special assistant.

Hawes, Cheasty and members of the committee will go to Tyler, Tex., soon to confer with the Texas attorney general who is currently there.

In Murder

Hackensack, N. J., Oct.

port agent for the Sea
Cheast

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
20 WEST 40th STREET, NEW YORK 18, N. Y.
LOngacre 3-6890

*Please direct reply to:*
Robert Saunders
~~1064½ Central Avenue~~
Tampa 2, Florida
705 E. Harrison

RW

Annual file

November 14, 1956

Mr. Roy Wilkins
Executive Secretary, NAACP
20 West 40th Street
New York 18, New York

28055 NOV 16 56

Dear Mr. Wilkins:

I am submitting for your observation, clippings from several Florida newspapers concerning the recent decision of the U. S. Supreme Court's decision banning racial segregation on Intra-State transportation and a report on the meeting held November 13, 1956 in Tallahassee, Florida by the Committee set up by the Florida Legislature to investigate "NAACP."

The original intent of the legislation and the wording of its contents which became law was to "investigate those organizations which tend to violate Florida Laws." However, my observation of the procedure in this state is that there is a strong inclination towards court action similar to that in Texas, seeking an injunction of the Association in this state.

This is made evident by the fact that the investigators and the attorney in charge have left for Texas to confer with the Attorney General of that State. This is the second trip. It is also evident because there has been no report of anyone being called up to give reports to the group. The only report of information having been given comes from the newspapers and from an informant who tells us that "the smell of money is bringing forth a few liars."

I received a long distance telephone called today from a Mr. Harold Constant of Ocean Ridge, just a little ways from Delray Breabh. He wanted to know "What control did the NAACP have over Negroes in Delray Beach." His inquiry came as results of a recent referendum on the last ballot which would allow the city of Delray Beach to purchase an additional 200 feet of beach frontage in Ocean Ridge. This added to the 100 feet that has already been procured would serve as a "Negro Beach." Residents of Ocean Ridge (all white) are opposed since "this is a problem for Delray which is being shifted on other communities." Mrs. Catherine Strong who is supposed to control the Negroes and who is vice-mayor of Delray Beach had favored the referendum. Some Negro leaders had told the voters to mark an "x" in the "Yes" box. However, when the total ballots were counted from the Negro quarters the vote was 249 against and 24 for the "Negro Beach."

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The whites in this area cannot understand what has happened because Negroes were supposed to have divorced or rejected the NAACP in their fight for a Beach. The ballot will contain the same question again on November 20, when they vote for councilmen for Delray Beach.

The speaker wishes to convey to citizens of Delray Beach (Negroes) that they should againstrike this issue down. Without a doubt, it will be stricken unless the higher authorities intervene once more by sending some "outstanding Negro" into Delray to persuade the folk how to vote. I do not think that they will send the same one again though (Jake Gaither from Florida A & M).

The situation in Sarasota is quiet. The Jessie Woods case is progressing with Woods still being "detained for his own protection."

A confidential source has given the following information on Woods. He is mentally retarded and has been known to be uncontrollable when drinking. The state will have to prosecute his abductors in order to prevent shame from descending upon it because of Woods inability to compete on a mental level with persons his age. They donot want any publicity because it might reveal the true nature of the man and in the event they fail to get a prosecution, Florida might be in an enbarassing position. The source (which is reliable) states that woods was drinking on that afternoon. He is alleged to have told officers at Raiford that he did say "hello Baby" to the white women. No one is allowed to see him except his close relatives and he does not have the advice of counsel as yet.

Very truly yours,

Robert Saunders

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Registration
Florida

November 19, 1956

AIRMAIL SPECIAL

William A. Fordham, Esq.
1404½ Central Avenue
Tampa 2, Florida

Dear Bill:

Would you please forward to us immediately the certificate of registration, receipt or whatever you have showing registration of the N.A.A.C.P. in the State of Florida.

Sincerely yours,

Robert L. Carter
General Counsel

RLC:plh

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July 23, 1956

Memorandum

TO: Mr. McClain

FROM: Robert L. Carter

Please draw check against the NAACP in the amount of $30.00 for Robert Saunders to reimburse him for registration fee to register in the State of Florida.

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Florida Action
Jet Magazine

AIR MAIL

November 28, 1956

Dear Mr. Johnson:

We were greatly astonished to read in JET for November 29 the leading story entitled, "NAACP Strips Fla. Files Before Senate Probe."

The NAACP has not "stripped" its files in Florida. The JET account is completely in error. The JET account in fact accuses the NAACP of committing a crime, since to tamper with papers, records and files in the face of an official investigation is a punishable crime. We are advised that the JET account may be libelous in that it may have damaged the NAACP in the eyes of the courts and law enforcement officials through which the Association must work in carrying forward its program. In this sense, the JET account could do irreparable harm to the general crusade of Negro American citizens seeking to win and enjoy their citizenship rights.

We are asking that a retraction of this statement which, so far as the account goes, is based upon nothing more than the phrase, "JET learns," be carried in the next issue.

The great injustice to the NAACP and the fight for freedom is contained in the above headline and statement, but an equally inaccurate assertion included in the story is, "NAACP office workers and other paid personnel are quietly looking around for other jobs 'just in case' Florida solons seek to ban them from state activity." We have in Florida only one paid employe, a field secretary assigned to that state and when I heard from him a few days ago he was very much on the job.

The details of the South-wide attack upon the NAACP seem not to be generally known among our people. However, the National Catholic Welfare Board and the American Jewish Congress, among others, have recognized the seriousness of the Southern moves and have spoken officially against it. The AJC has made a detailed analysis of the seven laws passed recently by the Virginia General Assembly, all aimed at the NAACP. The Young Democratic Club of Harris County, Texas, has passed a resolution condemning the attack by the State of Texas upon the NAACP and offering its cooperation in resisting the moves of the Texas attorney general.

We believe this to be the most important story of the day in the race relations struggle. It sweeps all the way from Virginia to Texas and involves court actions, legislative enactments, and harrassments by state bureaus and officials in

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South Carolina, Florida, Georgia, and Louisiana, in addition to Texas and Virginia. North Carolina has put in its little bit. Many of the new laws we believe to be unconstitutional and already in two states (Virginia and Louisiana) they are hampering the exercise of rights by white people.

This is the big story in the desegregation fight. It was hinted at by a recent feature in the Christian Science Monitor. We would like to talk it over with you and Mr. Clayton and such other members of your staff as might be interested. Mr. Henry Lee Moon, our Director of Public Relations, will be on a short visit in the Middle West soon and would like to stop in Chicago for a talk with you at your convenience. If you will indicate what day next week would be suitable for you, I will ask him to arrange his schedule accordingly.

With best wishes.

Very sincerely yours,

Roy Wilkins,
Executive Secretary.

Mr. John H. Johnson, Publisher
Johnson Publications
1820 S. Michigan Avenue
Chicago 16, Ill.

rw/mdj

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
20 WEST 40th STREET, NEW YORK 18, N. Y.
LOngacre 3-6890

30161 DEC13'56

Please direct reply to:

Robert Saunders
~~1404½ Central Ave~~
Tampa 2, Florida
705 ~~W~~est Harrison

December 10, 1956

Mr. Gloster B. Current
Director of Branches, NAACP
20 West 40th Street
New York 18, New York

Dear Gloster:

I called this morning to notify you of the first subpoenas to be issued by the legislative committee. The two young co-eds at Florida A & M have been told to appear before the group.

With reference to the State Board Meeting Saturday, we had representation from Pensacola, Tampa, West Palm Beach and of course all of the Board members in and around the Dade County Area. Discussions were held on finances, Branch status and the legal program for the state including the present crisis--the investigation. Father Gibson, I fear, is confused as always on the issue of Branch status. He claims that when he receives the state's share of the pro-rata tax, he only gets returns from about twenty or less Branches. He debates the fact that my statement concerning 41 Branches having submitted memberships is correct. Concerning the status of Branches, he wants to withdraw charters from Branches like Perrine(which is his pet peave). I explained to him that in February when we conducted our membership drive, the Branch had active officers and that they had submitted 54 members to the national since January 1. "He was told that when a Branch does-not submit 50 members during the year, it is placed on in-active status. At the end of a certain period if that Branch does not function, then and only then could the Charter Be lifted and only by the National Board of Directors. I think that it should be explained that there can be no manual lifting of charters by any field person, officer or State Conference. The group voted to try to get all of the Branches in Florida active and then to recommend to you those Branches which cannot be reactivated after a period of time. This vote came after the discussion brought on by Father Gibson.

It was recommended that the state should be broken into areas for the purpose of having legal representation for Branch officers and members called before the legislative committee. This has been done. But as a means of follow-up and in keeping with the recommendations, lawyers working with the NAACP are being notified and Branches told who there area representative will be. Rodriguez is in agreement with this set-up.

Relative to the moving of the office to Miami, this question was voted down. There was only one dissenting opinion.

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The following Attorneys have agreed to work and are either members of the Board or Branch Legal Chairmen:

| Lawyer | Area and Branches |
|---|---|
| Attorney Charles Wilson<br>307 N. Davilliers<br>Pensacola, Florida | Pensacola, DeFuniak Springs,<br>Gulf Port, Jackson County,<br>and Bay County |
| Attorney E. D.Jackson<br>408 Broad Street<br>Masonic Temple Bldg<br>Jacksonville, Florida | Jacksonville, St. Augustine<br>Daytona Beach<br>Live Oak, Madison, Jefferson<br>County |
| Attorney G. E. Graves<br>808 NW 2nd Avenue<br>Miami, Florida | Miami, Homestead, Liberty City<br>Perrine, Key West, Hallandale<br>Ft. Lauderdale and Pompano |
| Attorney F. M.Cunningham<br>500 Rosemary Avenue<br>West Palm Beach, Florida | West Palm Beach, Belle Glade,<br>Belray Beach, Ft. Pierce |
| Attorney F. A. Rodriguez | All branches not listed above. |

(Note: Paul C.Perkins, Miami has stated his desire to work with the State Legal Committee. However, until direct confirmation is received from him no Branches have been assigned.)

Letters are being sent to all Branches notifying them that they are to get in contact with the area lawyer and this office immediately upon being subpoenaed.

Other business transacted were the adoption of a budget for maintenance of the office the continuation of efforts to seek an end to racial segregation in this state. Next board meeting will be held in Pensacola. Date will be announced by the State president.

Rev. Reddick and I are working on Next years program and itinerary. I think that one innovation to the program has been the approval of travel expenses for the State President by the Board. Rev. Reddick has indicated that he intends to visit as many Branches as he can to help in the work of membership and fund raising.

Very truly yours,

Bob Saunders

cc: Mrs. Ruby Hurley

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528 JAN 7'57

Florida State Conference of Branches
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

705 E. Harrison Street TAMPA 2, FLORIDA

Phone 2-8619

*Please Direct Reply To:*

Bob Saunders

January 3, 1957

Mr. Henry Lee Moon
Director of Public Relations, NAACP
20 West 40th Street
New York 18, New York

Dear Henry:

You will find attached to this letter a news clipping showing the reaction to the case in Miami. Please note the reaction by the Tampa City Attorney and the Attorney General of the State.

Bob Saunders
B ob Saunders

"FREE BY '63"

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# Collins Lets NAACP Probe Pass

## Measure Becomes Law Without His Signature; Johnson Cool To Governor's Suggestion Group Investigate Klan

By TOM RAKER
Tribune Staff Writer

TALLAHASSEE, Aug. 21—Gov. LeRoy Collins today let a bill providing for a legislative committee to investigate the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People become law without his signature.

A senate committeeman promptly declared the law is "not designed to get us together to raise hell, but to investigate soberly."

Senate committee member and likely chairman Dewey M. Johnson of Quincy, who introduced the bill, told The Tribune he expected to get the group together about Sept. 1, to commence operations.

The law carries a $50,000 expense appropriation.

**Cool to Klan Suggestion**

It was apparent that Johnson intends to devote little time to a Collins suggestion that the committee can also investigate the Ku Klux Klan under the authority granted by the legislature.

Johnson reiterated today what he said when introducing the bill during the special session, that "it is aimed at the NAACP." But he said he'd check the Klan if it becomes apparent that organization is breaking the law.

Other senate members are Charley E. Johns of Starke, and John Rawls of Marianna. Senate President W. Turner Davis of Madison named them during the session, after the bill passed with only one dissenting vote.

**David Names Four**

House Speaker Ted David of Hollywood today named Henry W. Land of Orange; J. B. Hopkins of Escambia; A. J. Musselman of Broward, and W. C. Herrell of Dade from the lower chamber.

Collins in a statement issued this morning pointed out that the committee will be shortlived under terms of the law.

He said he did not feel it his duty to veto or approve the measure, which he said was one "for legislative determination."

Collins classed the $50,000 as "excessive" but expressed the

(Continued on Page 4, Column 1)

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# Gov. Collins Lets NAACP Probe Bill Become Law

(Continued from Page 1)

hope the committee will spend only a "small proportion of this."

He said he felt the committee would recognize its responsibility to the people of Florida "and not abuse the broad powers granted it."

He indicated the governor's office will refer "many inquiries I am receiving regarding the Ku Klux Klan for the scrutiny of the committee also."

**Doubts KKK Unlawful**

Johnson said he knows of nothing the KKK is doing to violate the law, although "I hold no brief for them."

Of the NAACP investigation he said, "the object of this thing is not to get together and raise hell. It is to get facts and figures on reported law violations so we can prepare legislation next session to put a halt to those violations."

**Sees "Intimidation"**

Johnson declared it to be "my personal conviction" that the Tallahassee bus boycott was caused by the NAACP, and he said he has received information leading him to believe "there is intimidation of Negroes" who might otherwise be riding the buses here."

Buses operated by Cities Transit, Inc., have returned to their capital city run after a month-long layoff caused by the boycott.

As for the law itself, Johnson declared, "I think members of the legislature knew what they were doing when they passed it."

The law directs the committee to investigate "all organizations whose principles or activities include a course of conduct on the part of any person or group which would constitute violence, or a violation of the laws of the state, or would be inimical to the well being and orderly pursuit of their personal and business activities by a majority of the citizens of this state."

**To Report to Session**

Committeemen will report to the 1957 session "to the end that corrective legislation may be adopted if found necessary to correct any abuses against the peace and dignity of the state."

House Speaker David said he would let committeemen decide for themselves on a chairman. Johnson said Davis had told the senate members he would head the upper house delegation.

David said he considered his appointments in the light of the leanings of the individuals, and that he sought out conservatives from large metropolitan areas for the job.

**Named For "Balance"**

David said the three South Florida members were named to "balance the committee." All three senators are from North Florida.

David said Hillsborough was not represented because Reps. James S. Moody of Plant City and Sam Gibbons of Tampa were already overloaded with legislative chores.

Both were considered, he said.

David said his only recommendation would be that the committee do its investigating and recommending as a group, and that no member make individual investigations outside the main body.

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Registrations-Florida

January 25, 1957

Mr. W. A. Fordham
Attorney at Law
1404½ Central Avenue
Tampa, Florida

Dear Bill:

As you know the NAACP has registered as a foreign corporation in your state. However, many states require annual registration, some on specified dates such as January 1st to June 1st, some on the anniversary of the original registration. We do not want to be in default for not having reregistered at the proper time, if necessary.

Would you immediately check to determine whether we must reregister and if so, when. Reply to me by Special Delivery so that we may take care of this important matter.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Carter
General Counsel

RLC:arw
JG:arw

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3069FEB 6 57

Report of Florida Legislative Investigation February 4, 1957

TO : Mr. Roy Wilkins, Executive Secretary, NAACP

FROM : Robert W. Saunders, Field Secretary, NAACP

Ltr. - xfile

1: The following is a report of the first days hearing on the Legislative investigation being conducted in Tallahassee, Florida. This report is divided into the following parts:

(1) Persons called to appear before Committee:
(2) Samples of testimony given and questions asked by Counsel for State
(3) Conclusion

PERSONS CALLED TO APPEAR:

Dr. Gilbert L. Porter, Executive Secretary, Florida State Teachers Association
Attorney William A. Fordham, Board Member and former President Fla. State Conference NAACP
Edward D. Davis, Insurance Executive and former President Fla. Conference also chairman of steering committee supposedly for "University of Florida Case."
Dr. M. C. Williams, connected with Inter Civic Council
Mr. Edwin Norwood, Treasurer, Tallahassee Branch NAACP and connected with Inter Civic Council
Rev. Metz Rollins, Presbyterian Minister and Treasurer of Inter Civic Council
Dr. G. T. Wigging, former President FSTA and Principal Pensacola High School.
Dr. George W. Gore, President Fla. A & M University
Aliver R. Maxey, for plaintiff in University of Florida Case
Benjamin F. Fenjamin F. Finley (Position unknown)
L. D. Speed, student arrested and now in litigation in Federal Court to contest segregated seating on Buses.
Johnny Herndon, Student who rode bus and in same position as L. D. Speed
S. T. Curtis, former secretary, FSTA and school principal
JON Folson, Florida State University Student
Joe Spagna " " " "
Virgil Hawkins, Plaintiff University of Florida Case
John Elliott, Student, out of town on speaking engagement for ICC.
Miss Bud
Mrs. Galdys Harrington, Secretary ICC
James E. Kennedy, Student (drafted into armed forces)
Dr. S. S. Lewis (Unknown).

SAMPLES OF TESTIMONY

(a) Witnesses called were Virgil Hawkins, Edward D. Davis, William A. Fordham and Attorney Horace Hill.

(b) Hawkins took the chair and requested counsel. Horace Hill served in this capacity. He remained there for almost an hour and a half. Samples of questions asked:

(q) When did you first file application to University
(A) 1949
(q) Did you talk with anyone concerning your filing
(a) Y es I talk with many people including Edesrd D. Davis
(q) Did you pay any attorney's fees to Alex Akerman
(Objection—such question is privileged)
( Objection over ruled

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(Q), Did steering committee represent any organization?

(A) No, Steering didnot represent any organization.

(Q) Did NAACP agree to pay attorneys in this case—did they agree to apy Horace Hill any money?
(A) NAACP has never agreed to pay money.
(Q) Has progressive voters league paid any money?
(A) I don't think so
(Q) Did steering committee every discuss with you the process of raising money?
(A) We talked about it?.
(Q) Do you know how much Court Costhas been involved in your case?
(A) I've been brought along.
(Q) Have you paid those expenses personally?
(A) What I could.
(Q) Have you paid any
(A) I don't know
(Q) How much
(A) 150 dollars or so.
(q) Have you ever had any agreement with NAACP to pay cost?
(A) I have never had any agreement with NAACP
(Q) Was Steering Committee an NAACP Committee?
(A) No, NAACP only made contributions along with other organizations.
(Q) Has NAACP as far as you know paid any cost?
(A) I don't know.
(Q) Has NAACP everypaid any money to you?
(A) No.
(Q) Do you know Robert R. Carter?
(A) I don't know him.
(Q) Have you ever had any counsel other than Horace Hill?
(A) I Don't know.
(Q) If Robert R. Carter ever represented you then you donot know anything about it?
(A) Objection—privileged
Over ruled
(Q) Do you know Robert Carter ?
(A) Not as I know of?
(Q) Have you ever received any money from NAACP Legal Defense Fund?
(A) No
(Q) Do you know Thurgood Marshall?
(A) Yes, by reading about him.
(Q) Has Florida Legal Defense Fund aver paid you any money?
(A) No.

Testimonyfrom Edward D. Davis

(Q) Did you receive any funds from NAACP during the early days of the Univ. Of. Fla. Case?
(A) A few dollars from Harry T. Moore.
(Q) What was his office?
(A) Executive Secretary, Fla. State Conf. of Branches
(Q) Did committee solicit aid from NAACP
(A) No. Mr. Akerman said that he would solicit aid and counsel from Mr. Marshall.

This testimony went on for some time all bordering on source of money for this case. Mr. Davis also told of his tenure in office and how long he has been a member of NAACP.

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Attorney Fordham's testimony centered around the same questions. He was also asked about NAACP Policy and the operation of Branches. Mrs Fordham was also asked to tell how plaintiffs are brought or solicited. Fordham stated that NAACP does not solicit Plaintiffs. But he did mention the filling in of retainers.

The committee delved on the fact that plaintiffs had turned down out of state scholarships and tried to pin down the fact that "there was an agreement that if they took or became plaintiffs, they would not accept such scholarships." This was denied.

Of interest to this observer is the fact that communications from National Office to Horace Hill, bills for Attorney and expense fees including photostatic copies of cancelled checks, communications to the Attorney General of Florida from Bob Carter and various other material related to this case was presented as evidence. A total of twenty-five or more pieces of evidence were submitted. When Haws stated to Attorney Hill that "didn't these letters come from your files——were'nt they in your office? Hill's answer was that he didn't know because he had not given any one any permission to search his files therefore Haws should know as much about the authenticity of the photostatic copies as he did." The source of these matirials has been question unless they were released by National.

I think that it is interesting to note that four of the committee members are from counties where Negroes do not vote. Four from the House of representatives are from more liberal counties.

The state offered evidence from Texas. It appears that an exhaustive study was madd of the Texas Case and they apparently following the same procedure here.

CONCLUSION

Other persons are being called and this representive's name was brought up ;several times. It is expected that this hearing may be on for several days. Newspaper clippings are being forwarded.

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REPORT ON FLORIDA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE # 2 February 5, 1957

TO : Mr. Roy Wilkins, Executive Secretary, NAACP
Mr. Glester B. Current, Director of Branches, NAACP
Mr. H enry Lee Moon, Public Relations Director, NAACP
Mr. Thurgood Marshall and Mr. Robert L. Carter, Legal Department, NAACP

1: The following is the second report on activities at the hearing now being conducted by the $50,000 legislative committee set up by the Florida State Legislature to investigate "organizations which through their program tend to incite violance or whose operations are not to the best interest of the majority of Florida's citizens." (However, Senator Johnson from Gadsden County stated that the full intent was to investigate the NAACP. He introduced the bill into the Legislative session and it became law without the signature of Governor Leroy Collins).

SYNOPSIS

In Monday's session the following persons appeared: Virgil Hawkins, Horace Hill , William Fordham, Edward D. Davis. Testimony taken before the committee had to do with the Hawkins case and his trying to open the University of Florida. The committee continued to stick to the question of finances and the possibility of a contract existing between the plaintiffs and the NAACP in which the NAACP would make remunerations for use of plaintiffs as guinea pigs in such an action. However, the committee has not been able to prove this. Plaintiffs, although testimony has varied and conflicted, have continued to refute this line of interrigation. Substantially no ground was gained to show that NAACP funds were used in this case with only one exception. Several checks make payable to Horace Hill and drawn on an "ear marked" checking account established by Edward D. Davis and Attorney William A. Fordham and consisting of contributions received as a result of solicitations made by Mr. Davis for the University of Florida case . The counsel for the committee also submitted a check drawn on this account for $150 and made payable to Virgil Hawkins. It was established that the check was a loan made to Hawkins and which was to be repaid in sixty days. The check was issued some time during June or July of the past year.

TESTIMONY AND WITNESSES CALLED FOR TODAYS HEARING

Witnesses Called to testify were: Virgil Hawkins; Oliver Maxie; Edward D. Davis; Shirley Wayne Curtis; Dr. G. T. Wiggins; Edwin F. Norwood; Joh C. Folson; George E. Spagna; John N. Boardman, Johnn A. Herndon, Leonard D. Speed and Harold Owens (the latter was not present. It is believed that he has been drafted).

The hearing opened promptly at 9:30 A.M. with the Chairman Representative Land from Orlando calling for order. First to be called was Virgil Hawkins. Hawkins was questioned about previous testimony in which he stated that he had made payments to Attorney Horace Hill and Alex Akerman. Conflicting testimony had been given previously by Oliver Maxie and Edward D. Davis that the Steering Committee had undertaken to raise money to pay court and attorney's expenses. Hawkins then said in today's hearing that he "had not made direct payments from his pocket but that (Hawkins) had made payments to the Steering Committee which in turn had made payments to the Attorneys. Counsel Mark Haws for the State introduced testimony which he called exhibit 1, a letter written Alex Akerman by the steering committee asking for information. He also read a letter to Attorney General Richard Ervin from the late Harry T. Moore in which Mr. Moore stated that "NAACP attorneys would again take the case of Hawkins to the Courts and calling for some sort of amicable

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settlement in which the State could save much litigation expense and the Negro citizens of Florida could long remember him (Ervin) for his action." The interrigation continued with the counsel delving into the finances of Hawkins, his private bank account, the amount of his salary, other sources of income, the amount of money his wife made, who she worked for (she is a teacher in Alachua County) who did he owe and other related questions.

Of interest is the answer given to one question in which Hawkins stated after being asked "What did he (Hawkins) mean by debtors began to pressure him after the publicity of the University of Florida case?" Hawkins answered that "Soon after the case broke in 1956, that all of his debtors began to put pressure on him for their money. "I wish I knew why they did it," he said. "But they even wanted to take my automobile."

The next witness was OLIVER MAXEY, formerly a plaintiff in the case. He is now a teacher. He revealed that he first made application to the University of Florida in 1942. He made application in 1949 along with some members of a "Business and Professional Mens Club in Ocala, Florida. He said that on one occasion they had met in Fessendon Academy to discuss the case and that members of the "Steering Committee" were present but that he could not remember who they were. He stated that he had known Alex Akerman before he went to the Navy and that he had gone to his office to Talk with him. But the payment of money for the case was under taken by the "Steering Committee." Following the testimony by Oliver, he was excused for the rest of the hearing. Oliver is now 42 years old.

EDWARD D. DAVIS was next to be called to the committee room. He told practically the same story as yesterday. However, he added that he did not see why such a statement as that which appeared in the newspaper today and which was made by Attorney William A. Fordham was made. "As far as I can see," Davis said, "The NAACP has nothing to hide. In all of my years of membership and as an officer, I have always felt that the Association operated above the board and within strict legal lines. I believe that the NAACP is succumbing to the hysteria created by the Legislature in in special session last August ." Mr. Davis stated that he had the complete file on the University of Florida Case and that the Committee was welcomed to inspect it. He was commended by Representative Helm for his cooperativeness.

SHIRLEY WAYNE CURTIS, age 55, Principal of Pinellas County High School in Clearwater Florida was next called to the committee. He stated that he had been teaching in Pinellas County since 1924. Interrigation of Curtis was around the Florida State Teachers Association and its organizational structure. Counsel Haws then asked about the duties of the Executive Secretary, the signing of checks, the Board of Directors and meetings attended by Curtis. He asked if any contributions had been made to the NAACP during his (Curtis's) regime as"part-time" executive secretary. Curtis answered that he did not know.

Q Was the question of financing the University Case ever brought before the Board of directors of the Florida State Teachers Association?

A No. The question was never brought before the Board of Directors

Q: Has that Association (FSTA) ever given any money to the NAACP?

A: As I recall, they have given an annual contribution of about $25.00 peryear to the National Office and nothing to the State.

Q: Did the "Steering Committee" make an appeal for funds for the Hawkins Case?

A: They made an appeal but there was not any agreement about supporting this case.

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Q: As far as you know, the Florida State Teachers Association has not put a dime into the University of Florida Case.

A: As far as I know, no.

Q: Who sould have the cancelled checks for the FSTA.

A: Either Ben D. Griffin in Tampa or S. Meridith Moseley in Ft. Lauderdale.

Haws then read a letter from Horace Hill to Robert L. Carter in which Hill asked for the Status of the University of Florida Case because he was sure that the Board of Directors of the FSTA would want to know. Date of this letter was March 9, 1953. He also read another letter from Hill to Carter dated August 6, 1954 in which he told that the FSTA had withdrawn all support from the University of Florida case.

DR. GARRETT T. WIGGINS was next called to testify before the Committee. He was asked about his length of teaching experience and his educational background. He also was asked to tell how long he had been teaching in Florida. He revealed that he was : "PRESIDENT OF THE WASHINGTON JUNIOR COLLEGE COLLEGE OF PENSACOLA, ONLY ONE OF ITS KIND IN THE STATE." This brought smiles from the Committee. He stated that he was president of the FSTA from 1952 to 1953.

Q: Did the question ever come before the FSTA to finance the legal fight of Virgil Hawkins and the others ?

A: I am under oath and I want to tell the truth. If I had known that you were going to ask that I would have tried to bring some records.

Q: Was an appeal ever made before you or your Board of Directors?

A: When I took office, there was the committee. In the organziation, charitable bodies send in requests for help. There was a special committee. I do remember signing a check to that body or some other bory. For example, we don't ask what a check or body is going to do with the money. There were checks signed and one was to this committee (here it becomes confusing which committee he meand).

Q: Do you remember whether you signed more then one check to this Committee?

A: If you had told me those things would have been brought up, I'd brought my records or what records I could have found.

This line of questioning continued for some time with Dr. Wiggins continuing to insist that he new nothing of the Financing of the Case.

(PERSONAL OPINION: The questioning of the next witness could be considered intimidation and an example of what can be expected when members of Inter Civic Council are called or other faculty members).

EDWAIN F. NORWOOD, Faculty member of Florida Agriculture and Mechanical University was

NOTE: Both Dr. Wiggins and Mr. Curtis stated that they "had never been members of the NAACP, did not hold cards now and if the Committee did not believe them they could search the membership roles of the NAACP."

WIGGINS, Garrett T.:—Was instructor at Florida A & M College, later was appointed as Instructor at Texas Southern University in Houston. Was hired in Florida As principal of Washington Sr. High and to head the so called "Jr. College."

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called before the committee. It was established that he has resided in Tallahassee for his life time. He has been an instructor at the Fla. A & M for seven years and he is a member of the FSTA. he wad asked if he knew several instructors at the University including Dr. M. G. Miles, Dr. Emmette Bashful. Names of all instructors who had attended Inter Civic Council Meetings were called and he was asked if he had ever seen any of them at the meetings.

Q: Has Dr. Gore ever held faculty meetings in which he told you that he didnot approve or disapprove faculty participation in meetings and the doing of these things, giving or contributing to the support of the Inter Civic Council and picking up people in your private car for the purpose of keeping them from riding on buses in Tallahassee?

A: Not that I know of.

Q: Do you think that Dr. Gore approved of your action?

A: I can't say that he did.

Q:, Do you think that he disapproved?

Interuption by Senator Johnson: "Mr. Chairman, I would like to remind this witness I might seem a little repititious here, that he is under oath and that he is testifying before a committee of the State of Florida and that he is an employee of the State of Florida. I think that he should answer these questions.

Q: Do you think that you could divorce yourself from the University and its functioning by being seen taking part in such a boycott:

A: I Do.

Q: What was the substance of what Dr. Gore told his faculty about not participating in the boycott:

A: He said that he didn't think that faculty members should become involved where it would affect the University.

This line of questioning continued for some time with the committee and Ex Governor Charlie Johns often whispering to each other.

The following were excused because Counsel (Francisco Rodriguez was not available and would not arrive until Wednesday morning):
Jon C. Folson-25,Student, Florida State University (White)
George E. Spagna, St. Petersburg Student at Fla. State University.
J. N. Broadman,24, student who was expelled from Fla. State University
John A. Herndon, 114 Lincoln St. Tallahassee, Student Fla. A & M University
Leonard D. Speed, 24, Steudent, Fla. A & M University
Harold Owens was not present.

The hearing was adjourned until 10:00 A.M. Wednesday, February 6, 1957 in the Capital Building.

Submitted by,

Robert W. Saunders
Field Secretary
N.A.A.C.P.

RWS

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I HAVE JUST SENT FOLLOWING TELEGRAM TO ORLANDO SENTINAL QUOTE I DEMAND THAT YOU PRINT IMMEDIATE RETRACTION OF YOUR HEADLINE PAGE 3A TODAYS EDITION QUOTE NAACP SUPPLIED YOUTH BUS FARE END QUOTE. IT IS INCORRECT AND REPRESENTS A DELEBRATE ATTEMPT TO DISTORT TESTIMONY GIVEN IN YESTERDAYS LEGISLATIVE HEARING. UNQUOTE=

ROBERT W SAUNDERS=

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National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

705 E. Harrison Street TAMPA 2, FLORIDA

Phone 2-8619

*Please Direct Reply To:*

R.W. Saunders

3377 FEB 11 '57

February 7, 1957

Mr. Roy Wilkins
Executive Secretary, NAACP
20 West 40th Street
New York 18, New York

Dear Sir:

Thought you would be interested in recent clippings while investigating committee is carrying on their State Proobe of NAACP officials in Tallahassee.

Inclosed are clippings of current events from the Tampa Morning Tribune of the trial so far this week.

Yours truly,

Hazel Kennon,
Secretary to Mr. R. W. Saunders

inclosures:

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FLORIDA STATE COMMITTEE
OPENS ANTI-NAACP PROBE

February 7, 1957

TALLAHASSEE, Fla., Feb. 7.--More than a score of witnesses were summoned before the Florida State Joint Legislative Committee which opened its long heralded investigation of the NAACP here this week. The committee was authorized by the state Legislature last year with a $50,000 budget to investigate "organizations...whose operations are not to the best interest of the majority of Florida's citizens."

During the opening sessions of the hearing, the committee was foiled in its attempts to pin a charge of barratry on the NAACP. In a vain effort to prove that the Association solicited plaintiffs for desegregation cases, Committee Counsel Mark Haws closely questioned Virgil Hawkins who had sued for admission to the Uni-

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versity of Florida.

Horace Hill, William Fordham and Edward D. Davis and others associated with the effort to lower the color bar at the university were also questioned by committee members and counsel. Mr. Davis, a former president of the Florida State Conference of NAACP Branches, testified that "the NAACP has nothing to hide. I have always felt that the Association operated above board and within strict legal lines." He offered to make available to the Committee the complete file in the University of Florida case.

The committee also called certain officers and members of the Florida State Teachers Association, local NAACP members and officers, and members of the faculty of the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical College, as well as white students who challenged bus segregation.

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=TALLAHASSEE FLO FEB 8=
=ROY WILKINS=

2/11/57
RW.

ELEVEN HOURS RECORDINGS INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE HEARINGS MAILED YOU THIS MORNING COD NUMBER 7207 PER ARRANGEMENT WITH ROBERT SAUNDERS. AMOUNT HILLED COVERS ALL FEES AND COSTS OF TAPE STOCK= B File

=GEORGE THURSTON NEWE=905A..

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National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

705 E. Harrison Street — TAMPA 2, FLORIDA

Phone 2-8619

*Please Direct Reply To:*
R.W. Saunders

February 11, 1957

Mr. Roy Wilkins
Executive Secretary, NAACP
20 West 40th Street
New York 18, New York

Dear Sir:

I have fowarded to Mr. Moon pictures taken at the hearing in Tallahassee. We will continue to keep you abreast on what is happening in this State.

I went with officials of the Tampa Branch and Dr. A. Leon Lowry, a leading Minister here, to meet with the publisher of the Tampa Morning Tribune to discuss desegregation in this City. Full reports will be submitted later.

Very truly yours,

Bob Saunders

Bob Saunders,
Field Secretary, NAACP

RWS:hk

File

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CRISIS

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HENRY L. MOON

Pictures from Tallahassee Scene:

# 1---Atty. William A. Fordham, former Florida State Conference NAACP President is shown testifying before Florida Legislature Interim Committee in Tallahassee, Florida. Shown are Sgt. Strickland of the Investigative staff, Ralph Hawes, Counsel for the Committee and Chairman Land, member of committee from Orlando, Florida.

# 2
Rev. K. S. DuPont, vice president of the Inter Civic Council, leaders of the Bus Protest in Tallahassee, Florida. Rev. Dupont is candidate for City Council. He is opposing a segregationist. Only Two Candidates are on Ticket.

# 3 Three of the persons who are taking part in the leadership in Florida's "Fight for Freedom." L. to R. Rev. K. S. Dupont, Dr. Gilbert L. Porter, Executive Secretary, Florida State Teachers Association and Rev. Metz Rollins, Treasurer, Inter Civic Council.

# 4 L. to R. Dr. M. S. Williams, Secretary Inter Civic Council, Rev. Metz. Rollins and Dr. C. Kenzie Steele, president of the ICC discuss a point outside of Florida State Capitol Building.

#5 Henry Owens, student from Florida A & M University who rode buses in defiance of Tallahassee seating ordinance. Said Owens to Committee "we went sight seeing."

# 6 Atty. Francisco A. Rodriguez, NAACP legal Counsel and one of two lawyers presently involved in legal fight to end racial segregation on way to Judge Dozier DeVane's Court for hearing on injunction. Order to prohibit trial of three youth's (one white) by City of Tallahassee was denied. Judge gave talk on Christianity and ordered hearing on constitutionality of City's seating law for following week.

# 7 Leonard D. Speed, Fla. A & M Student is shown outside of father's store. Store's windows were stoned by unknown persons. Speed also rode buses and is presently being tried in City Court. He is also plaintiff in Federal Court action to outlaw segregated seating in Tallahassee.

# 8 In Prayer before going to Judge Dozier DeVane's Court. Prayer is led by Dr. C. Kenzie Steele.

# 9 Three students from Florida A & M who rode buses: Henry Owens, Leonard D. Speed and Johnny Herndon. Speed and Herndon are in Federal Court as plaintiffs against City of Tallahassee along with one white student from Florida State University. Herndon lost job soon after he ddefied Tallahassee law.

# 9-A L to R Johnny Herndon, Loenard D. Speed and Henry Owens.

# 10--L. to R. Henry Owens, Leonard D. Speed and Johnny Herndon.

# 11---United States Post Office where Judge Dozier D. DeVane holds Court and where ultimate end of Tallahassee Bus protest may be decided.

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National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

705 E. Harrison Street

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R.W. Saunders

Fla - State Action

4440 FEB 25 '57

File
R. W. Saunders

February 18, 1957

Mr. Roy Wilkins
Executive Secretary, NAACP
20 West 40th Street
New York 18, New York

Dear Sir:

Inclosed please find clippings on latest events on our Legislative prwobe in Talahassee.

Will send all details and clippings on same.

Yours very truly,

Hazel Kennon,
Secretary to Mr. Saunders

inclosure:

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705 E. Harrison Street

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Phone 2-8619

*Please Direct Reply To:*

R. W. Saunders

Fla. - State Section

4389FEB2157

February 20, 1957

Mr. Roy Wilkins
Executive Secretary, NAACP
20 West 40th Street
New York 18, New York

Dear Sir:

Clippings inclosed on Legislative Committee investigation hearing in Tallahassee, Florida for your information.

Hazel Kennon,
Secretary to Mr. Saunders,
Field Secretary, NAACP

inclosures:2

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ROY WILKINS=
20 WEST 40 ST= Florida

1957 FEB 25 PM 2 59

:TWO HOURS RODRIGUEZ TESTIMONY BEFORE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON NAANP ACTIVITIES AND ORGANIZATION IN FLORIDA C-O-D 7255 MAILED TODAY=
THURDSTON

nlc

NAANP C-O-D 7255=

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NEED ALL MIAMI NAACP RECORDS MAILED TO YOU IMMEDIATELY FOR FLORIDA INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE. REPLY BY RETURN WIRE.

ATTY. G. E. GRAVES, JR.

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THURGOOD L MARSHALL= NAACP Florida Libel
107 WEST 43 ST=

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G E GRAVES JR=

N.A.A.C.P. Florida investigation

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Re: stration - Florida.

February 26, 1957

AIRMAIL SPECIAL

Mr. William A. Fordham
Attorney At Law
1404½ Central Avenue
Tampa 2, Florida

Dear Bill:

Bob Saunders has sent to me a pink form entitled Corporation Report to the Secretary of State of Florida.

I had assumed that you were the agent in the State of Florida and just want to make sure before I send the form back. It must be signed by the Florida agent too.

Would you please reply immediately.

Sincerely yours,

Robert L. Carter
General Counsel

RLC:plh

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Feb. 26, 1957

Revised draft of statement for the Associated Press

It is not clear from the newspaper reports just what kind of records were requested of Mr. Graves by the investigating committee.

Normally, the National Office receives membership lists from branches because only the National Office issues membership cards. Other records received include legal papers pertinent to cases in which we are involved; annual and occasional reports on branch activities; and correspondence with the branches.

The National Office will cheerfully make available to the investigating committee upon request any of these records concerning Florida except the membership lists/

HLM:mw

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Draft of statement for the Associated Press

It is not clear from the newspaper reports just what kind of records were requested of Mr. Graves.

Normally, we receive in the New York office membership lists from branches because only the National Office issues membership cards. We also receive pertinent legal papers if we are engaged in any litigation. Branches also send to the National Office occasional reports on activities and usually an annual summary. Naturally, we have a file of correspondence with branches.

The National Office will cheerfully make available to the Legislative Committee upon request any of the [Miami Branch] records in the above-mentioned categories except the names and addresses of our members.

rw/mdj
2/26/57

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Feb. 26, 1957

From A.P.

The State Legislative Committee hopes to get its hands on records of the NAACP Miami branch.

The Committee was told yesterday that all records of Southeast Florida branches "from Palm Beach to Key West" were mailed to national headquarters in New York a few days after the committee was created.

G.E. Graves, Jr., attorney for the NAACP in Miami, said he collected the records and mailed them to New York under orders from Thurgood Marshall, chief counsel for the national group.

"He didn't ask, he demanded that I do it," Graves said in reply to a question from committee counsel Mark R. Hawes of Tampa.

Graves agreed to telegraph national headquarters asking that the records be returned but he said he did not know whether the "holder" would accede to his request.

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Florida State Conference of Branches
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

705 E. Harrison Street

TAMPA 2, FLORIDA

Phone 2-8619

*Please Direct Reply To:*
R.W. Saunders

RW

5017 MAR 1 '57

February 27, 1957

Mr. Roy Wilkins
Executive Secretary, NAACP
20 West 40th Street
New York 18, New York

Dear Sir:

Please find clippings taken from today's morning Tribune for your interest.

Sincerely

R.W. Saunders

RWS:hk
enclosures

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Florida State Conference of Branches
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

705 E. Harrison Street — TAMPA 2, FLORIDA

Phone 2-8619

*Please Direct Reply To:*
R.W. Saunders

RW - Fla
5014MAR1 '57

February 27, 1957

Mr. Roy Wilkins
Executive Secretary, NAACP
20 West 40th Street
New York 18, New York

Dear Sir:

Clippings are inclosed for your information taken from Miami Herald , Sunday Feb. 24th and Manday 25th.

R.W. Saunders

RWS:hk
enclosures:

**"FREE BY '63"**

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Florida State Conference of Branches
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

705 E. Harrison Street — TAMPA 2, FLORIDA

Phone 2-8619

*Please Direct Reply To:*
R.W. Saunders

4906 FEB 28 '57

February 27. 1957

Mr. Roy Wilkins
Executive Secretary, NAACP
20 West 40th Street
New York 18, New York

Dear Sir:

Please find enclosed herewith, clippings from Tampa Morning Tribune of news interest in Florida and latest happenings in our Florida Legislative proobe.

Very truly Yours,

R.W. Saunders

RWS:hk
enclosures: 2

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Florida Registration

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
20 WEST 40th STREET, NEW YORK 18, N. Y.
LOngacre 3-6890

*Please direct reply to:*
Robert Saunders
705 E. Harrison Street
Tampa 2, Florida

2/28/57
rlc

AIR MAIL SPECIAL

February 27
1957

Mr. Robert L. Carter
General Counsel, NAACP
20 West 40th Street
New York 18, New York

Dear Bob:

Bill Fordham has given me your communication of February 26 concerning the agent for the State of Florida and the form which I forwarded to you from the Secretary of State's Office.

In the initial registration of out of State Corporations made for the NAACP here, no one was named or appointed as agent for the Association nor was there any space on said application for such a designation.

Therefore, it remains for the Association to designate such a person. Fordham's name appeared on the original application merely as the person who submitted the registration form and the fees for such registration. He is no longer president of the State Conference and only serves in the capacity as a member of the State Board.

If I am designated as such agent, I shall be available to sign the form upon its completion and return to this office.

Very truly yours,

Bob Saunders
Field Secretary
NAACP

P.S. The Legislative Committee which has conducted an investigation here has turned its signts on the WCC and the KKK. They indicated before adjourning the hearings on the NAACP that they would extend an invitation to the National Office to have National Officers testify before the committee.

CC: William A. Fordham
1404½ Central Avenue
Tampa, Florida

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
20 WEST 40th STREET, NEW YORK 18, N. Y.
LOngacre 3-6890

*Please direct reply to:*
Robert Saunders
705 E. Harrison Street
Tampa 2, Florida

Florida

February 27, 1957

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. Roy Wilkins
Executive Secretary, NAACP
20 West 40th Street
New York 18, New York

Dear Sir:

In my monthly report to Mr. Current, I stated that the Legislative Committee which is investigating the activities of the Association in Florida had not mentioned making an investigation of the Ku Klux Klan or the White Citizens Councils in this State.

However, at this time, I wish to state that although my statement in the report was absolutely correct, the committee just last afternoon, voted to investigate the activities of the Klan and the Seaboard White Citizens Council which happens to be controlled by John Kasper and which imported Fred Hockett into Miami to create violence. The motion for the investigation was made by a representatige from Dade County(Miami). It was impossible to bypass this situation after the event in Miami last Saturday night in which Hockett and three other men were caught red handed attempting to place a cross soaked in kerosene on the lawn of Frank Legree, Negro resident of 1455 NW 55th Street.

The committee indicates that it will extend an invitation to you and other National Officials of the NAACP to appear and testify at a future hearing. Just when this hearing will be I cannot say. It appears that much pressure and sentiment against the long drawn out NAACP investigation was brought to bare expecially after the Miami incident. Credit must be given to the Tampa Morning Tribune, Miami Herald and some other papers (including the St. Petersburg Times) which ran editorials on the red herring hunt against the Association and the inadvertant attempt of the committee to bypass the organizations mentioned in the above paragraph. Representative Henry Land, Orlando, stated that the purpose of the investigation was not to "outlaw the NAACP but to discover if it had violated any of Florida's laws." I can truthfully say, that the majority of opinion from learned sources believe that nothing was proved except that some witnesses were nervous or tried to hide there own misgivings.

The committee has distracted much from persons like Dr. G. T. Wiggins who was described as an individual who differs with the NAACP concerning the manner in which more progress. He is president of the Pensacola Junior College for Negroes (Uncle Tom). A Sam Curtis, principle of Clearwater (Pinellas) High School and an individual who was responsible for our Branch folding in that city, also testified be-

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fore the Committee. He stated that during his administration as executive secretary of the Florida State Teachers Association, no money passed from that organization to the NAACP or to the University of Florida case. Both of these men denied membership in the Association and said that they had never been members. Wiggins was formerly president of the Teachers group and before returning to Florida was employed at the Texas Southern University.

Called to testify in Miami were Dr. A.Joseph Reddick, State Conference president; Rev. Father Tehodore R. Gibson, Miami Branch president and State Conference Treasurer; Mrs. Ruth Perry, secretary of the Miami Branch and also of the State Conference; Atty. G. E. Graves, at orney for the Miami school cases and bus suits; His associate Atty. Edwin Davis; Dr. G. W Hawkins, past president of the Miami Branch; Richard M. Powell, plaintiff in the school suit and official of the Liberty Branch; Lee B. Wright, President of the Liberty City Branch; Dr. J. O. Brown, plaintiff and many of the signers of the original school petition. Also called today were three employees of the Miami Herald and Fred Hockett, mentioned in an earlier paragraph.

Concerning the statement made by Atty. G.E. Graves, earlier in the year, or to be correct, on August 11, the State Board met in Miami to discuss the recent sessions of the Florida Legislative body and the laws that it had passed. Sensing that an investigation was imminant, the group decided that they would send four attorneys, Rodriguez, Graves, Davis and Cunningham to each Branch in the State for the purpose of inspecting records and gathering membership duplicates This was done and the forms were placed in various locations out of reach of any investigative force. Whether they were sent to New York or are in Florida is a military secret. Graves was asked by the Committee ifhe had the records to which he replied that he did not. He stated that the records had been sent to New York on orders of Thurgood Marshall who is special counsel for NAACP. Graves told me that as attorney of record, and since the litigants in the school cases were also called as witnesses before the committee, and since the cases were still in litigation, he could not be made to give records up to the committee. This,he said, was confidential information between attorney and plaintiff. Added to this is the fact that the Attorney General immediately filed for a rehearing of the Virgil Hawkins case (University of Florida) stating that from "evidance gotten by the legislative committee, Hawkins was only an agent of the NAACP and never really meant to attend the University of Florida" (The Florida Court refused to accept additional testimony on this issue today). We are of the opinion that the committee is only using the obtaining of records for the purpose of gaining additional data to be used in future court tests and especially in the cases that are now be fore the courts. In other words, Graves used Thurgood as an excuse for stating his real reason for with holding the records.

I might add, that since the committee is supposed to make its repor to the Legislative body in April, such information as it is getting and which is being heard before public hearings is being weighed carefully before witnesses are called to appear. Meetings are held and witnesses are briefed on how to answer. Every witness is given or offered counsel by the State Conference of Branches. However, we

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still are running into the problem of some of the people becoming confused.

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for Tampa. We are preparing the Branches in this area now for this session. We contemplate that they will ask questions on "why petitions were signed," and if they follow the line that was indic ted in Miami, they will try to prove that persons who signed petitions here did not know what they were signing. I think that they didnot uncover anything in either Tallahassee or Miami.

The work of the committee is not hampering efforts by Branches to begin desegregation. The Tampa Branch has started a program to develope intdr group communication on the subject and is sending out well constructed letters feeling out the pulse of white professionals and ministers. Several replies have been received and ministers (white) are beginning to speak out. However, we are receiving almost a million dollars worth of publicity, complete with television coverage, radio news casts and thousands of lines in newspapers at the cost of the tax payer. This is something that has really begun to pay off with interest in the Association being developed among white as well as Negroesw

Very truly yours,

H. H. Saunders

cc: Mr. Gloster B. Current
Director of Branches

Mr. Robert L. Carter
General Counsel

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# TAMPA *TRIBUNE* DEPLORES TALK OF BANNING NAACP IN FLORIDA

February 28, 1957

TAMPA, Fla., Feb. 28.--The NAACP should not be outlawed in Florida, the Tampa *Morning Tribune* has declared editorially.

The NAACP in Florida currently is being investigated by a state legislative committee, and the *Tribune* editorial points out that "in the aftermath of the first sessions, we hear talk again of 'outlawing' the NAACP."

"This is a patently repressive proposal of dubious constitutionality, and the Legislature should discard any such idea," the newspaper asserts. "It does violence to the democratic concept that people may band together for any lawful purpose, whether offensive to majority customs or not."

"The NAACP, unlike the Communist Party, is not trying to overthrow the Republic. Despite its aberrations, and its employment of methods which sometimes severely damage racial relations, the organization has a right to exist and speak out for its objectives."

The editorial appeared in the*Tribune* edition of Feb. 9.

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Florida Suit
C C
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Y

Henry W. Land
Chairman
Dewey M. Johnson
Vice-Chairman
Senate Members
Charley E. Johns
John Rawls
House of Representatives Members
W. C. Herrell
J. B. Hopkins
A. J. Musselman, Jr.

FLORIDA LEGISLATIVE INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE
Tallahasse

February 28, 1957

Messrs. Wilkins, Marshall and Carter
National Association for the Advancement
of Colored People
20 West 40 Street
New York 18, New York

Gentlemen:

This investigating Committee which was set up by an act of a special session of the Florida Legislature in July, 1956, has been conducting an inquiry into the activities of your organization in the State of Florida.

This Committee held hearings at the State Capitol in Tallahassee February 4-7th, and February 18-19th. Hearings were conducted in Miami beginning February 25th. A number of officials and former officials of your various state Branches testified to the effect that virtually all of the Branch records of the NAACP have been removed from the State of Florida at the direction of National Headquarters.

At the hearings in Miami, the Committee suggested that you be asked to appear voluntarily before it and bring with you the records of your Florida Branches which have been removed. We offer you the opportunity to appear before our Committee at the State Capitol in Tallahassee at 10:00 a.m. March 11, 1957, and to bring with you the above mentioned records. You will be paid mileage and per diem as prescribed by Florida State Law. We are fully aware of the fact that this request has no legal status, but we believe that if your organization is desirous of acting in good faith, your appearance would demonstrate this beyond doubt.

Contrary to what has been reported at various times by the press, this Committee was not set up solely to investigate the NAACP or any other

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one organization. The act reads as follows:

> "It shall be the duty of the committee to make as complete an investigation as time permits of all organizations whose principles or activities include a course of conduct on the part of any person or group which would constitute violence, or a violation of the laws of the state, or would be inimical to the well being and orderly pursuit of their personal and business activities by the majority of the citizens of this state. Such investigations shall be conducted with the purpose of reporting to this legislature of the activities of such organizations to the end that corrective legislation may be adopted if found necessary to correct any abuses against the peace and dignity of the state."

At the hearing in Miami on February 26, a resolution was unanimously adopted, specifically condemning acts of violence by any group, either white or colored. A copy of this resolution is enclosed. You might also be interested to know that this Committee has interrogated Fred B. Hockett, one of the white citizens who has made threats of violence in the Miami area.

Your prompt reply will be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Henry W. Land
Henry W. Land Chairman
Florida Legislative Investigation Committee

HWL:mw
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Airmail

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RESULUT_ON OF THE LEGISLATIVE INVE_GATING COMMITTEE OF THE FLORIDA STATE LEGISLATURE

WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of the Legislative Investigating Committee of the Florida State Legislature that residents of other states are coming to Florida to agitate and foment racial dissension, and

WHEREAS, it has been announced that one of the leaders of such a movement is a convict, FREDERICK JOHN KASPER, and

WHEREAS, said FREDERICK JOHN KASPER has been known as one of the causes of the terror and destruction of civil rights in Clinton, Tennessee, and

WHEREAS, evidence of "fire and dynamite" has been disclosed in the Miami area, and

WHEREAS, threats of violence and bloodshed have been made affecting the lives and property of all our citizens, both white and colored; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATIVE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE OF THE FLORIDA STATE LEGISLATURE:

That the use of the violence, cross burning, coercion, fear, mob violence and threats as tools of solving problems by person or persons, group or groups be condemned and that the peace and tranquility of our Florida Citizens be preserved at all costs.

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Hearings Move to Miami-Libel Suit Dismissed



# New Legislation Promised As NAACP Hearings End

TALLAHASSEE, (UP) — The legislative committee investigating the Florida NAACP ended its hearings here yesterday and announced it has sufficient information to slow-down paid racial agitation and suppress "advocates of overthrowing established laws and customs."

The committee indicated it will sponsor legislation in April to strengthen laws against stirring up of court litigation or racial violence. It disclosed through Vice Chairman Dewey Johnson of Quincy that the committee "probably" will also investigate the Ku Klux Klan and White Citizens Councils to see "how far they have gone" in promoting violence or law violations.

**MORE HEARINGS SET**

The committee has tentatively scheduled more hearings Feb. 25 in Miami. The Tallahassee phase of the investigation was brought to an abrupt halt after Francisco Rodriguez, Tampa Negro attorney for the state NAACP, voluntarily testified the NAACP sponsored petitions demanding an end to segregated schools and stood ready to lend legal assistance to force desegregation through court action.

All witnesses summoned to appear here were released except for Robert Saunders, field secretary for the NAACP, and former State NAACP President Edward D. Davis of Ocala who were told to be on call for future hearings.

Attorney Mark Hawes of Tampa said Rodriguez' candid testimony made it unnecessary to question officers of the local Negro Inter-Civic Council who had been scheduled to appear yesterday to answer questions about their part in stirring up the drive to desegregate buses here.

Senator Johnson said after the hearing "that as a result of hearings to date, valuable information has been obtained that will result in a better understanding of the problem as well as a slowing down of paid agitation so that advocates of overthrowing established law and custom may be almost entirely suppressed by appropriate legislative action."

The committee was created by the 1956 Legislature to investigate any group whose aims are to stir up violations of law, but the bill was admittedly aimed principally at the NAACP. The committee said its purpose here was to show the NAACP and Inter-Civic Council violated law by promoting litigation.

**Segregation's struggle remained in the news yesterday as a national Negro figure predicted trouble if the administration's Civil Rights bill is not passed in this session of Congress. Here in Florida Attorney General Ervin cited new evidence in the Virgil Hawkins case and petitioned the Supreme Court that it be reported. Both stories on Page 1.**

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The negro point of view — Florida



**Florida Sentinel**
A PAPER FOR THINKING NEGROES

Owned and published weekly by the Florida Sentinel Publishing Co., Inc., C. Blythe Andrews, president and editor; Mrs. Johna Belle Andrews, vice president and treasurer; C. Blythe Andrews, Jr., secretary and managing editor; William H. Turner, mechanical superintendent.

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NATIONAL Advertising Representative: Associated Publishers, Inc., 31 W. 46th Street, New York City.

ENTERED as second class matter December 5, 1945, at the post office at Tampa, Fla., under act of March 3, 1879. Address all mail and make checks or money order payable to the FLORIDA SENTINEL.

## The NAACP Probe

The Florida legislative committee was given $50,000 to investigate the NAACP and it was quite liberal with it. Aside from paying an attorney $1250 a month and an investigator around $1000 per month, it also charted two planes to give one witness a free trip to Tampa and to Ocala to find some records which, in our opinion, won't amount to a hill of beans.

How much more was wasted in sommoning around 30 witnesses, in sending investigators to banks to secure photostatic copies of checks, and in hauling the committee members around, is as yet unknown to the public. But we feel the taxpayers have been taken for a ride.

The hearing may have hurt Virgil Hawkins because of his evasive and contradictory testimony and Horace Hill, his attorney, because of his hedging statements but in the main it didn't reveal the NAACP to be an outlaw gang, as some members had hoped to find.

The testimony of William A. Fordham, past president of the NAACP, was forthright, and his statement that the records had been sent out of the state was primarily to protect members in rural sections from economic reprisals.

The testimony of Edward D. Davis, a former president of the NAACP, and Gilbert Porter, secretary of the [illegible] but didn't reveal them, as one reporter stated, as being against the objectives of the NAACP, and opposed to the Inter-Civic League of Tallahassee.

We felt sorry for the young Florida A. & M. freshman, who got so frightened that he forgot his own name, and gave unsubstantuated testimony that no other witness knew anything about.

What puzzled us is the failure of the committee to call Robert Saunders, secretary of the NAACP, and Francisco Rodriquez, attorney for the NAACP, the two men best qualified to talk about the NAACP in Florida. Both men were present [illegible] to be heard. Either and whites together immediately at all costs and those who believe the Negro will gain his place in society faster and more pleasantly by taking things easy in an individual manner.

"The latter course seemed to be the approach advocated by such witnesses as Dr. Gilbert Porter, secretary of the Florida teachers; Edward D. Davis, ex-president of the NAACP, and Dr. G. T. Wiggins, president of the Junior College at Pensacola.

"After a week of the hearings, observers came away with the thought that the Negroes would achieve their goal more rapidly if they began following men like Porter, Davis and Wiggnis instead of the Inter-Civic League and the NAACP."

We don't think this label fits Porter and Davis, whom we know well, and possibly not Dr. Wiggins, whom we know only as a college professor.

Mr. Hardee overlooks one big detail: The Negro long ago stopped letting other people select his leaders. If the white people want to damn a Negro and kill his usefulness, let them praise him as a "safe leader."

This is the old Colonial approach, used by France, and England for so many generations, of dividing the native people and ruling them.

We don't think Porter and Davis want to be classiifed as against the objectives of the NAACP, or the Inter-Civic League, or favor any plan which would disobey the law of the land which plainly declares that Negroes have the right to ride a bus anywhere they please and to attend any school of their choice. These rights all Negroes of good sense and sound judgment approve, whether they tell our white friends so or not.

We think the legislature would be unwise to consider outlawing the NAACP, even though this might soften some of the frustration and alarm which seems to afflict some white citizens. It is not a subversive organization trying to overthrow the U. S. government, like the Communist party, but acts in lawful ways to secure for Negro citizens the rights guaraneted to all citizens by the U. S. Constitution.

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We felt sorry for the young Florida A. & M. freshman, who got so frightened that he forgot his own name, and gave unsubstantuated testimony that no other witness knew anything about.

What puzzled us is the failure of the committee to call Robert Saunders, secretary of the NAACP, and Francisco Rodriquez, attorney for the NAACP, the two men best qualified to talk about the NAACP in Florida. Both men were present and asked to be heard. Either could have settled in ten minutes all the questions which the committee wanted to know.

We suspect that Mr. Mark Hawes, committee counsel, may not have cared to tangle with Rodriquez again, for in his tilt with the young lawyer at the bus trial Mr. Hawes found a sharp-witted and eloquent-tongued barrister who knew his way around.

We think one white reporter at the scene, Mr. Jim Hardee of the Orlando Sentinel, reached the wrong conclusion when he said:

"Testimony seemed to divide the Negro leaders into two categories—those determined to force Negros so many generations, of dividing the native people and ruling them.

We don't think Porter and Davis want to be classiifed as against the objectives of the NAACP, or the Inter-Civic League, or favor any plan which would disobey the law of the land which plainly declares that Negroes have the right to ride a bus anywhere they please and to attend any school of their choice. These rights all Negroes of good sense and sound judgment approve, whether they tell our white friends so or not.

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# What Did NAACP Probers Prove?

**The dispute in Tallahassee over that city's new bus seat assignment law continues. Latest action came Friday when U.S. Judge Dozier Devane refused to interfere with a Municipal Court trial of two Negro university students charged with violating that law.**

By BOB DELANEY
(Times Bureau)

TALLAHASSEE — The joint legislative committee set up last year to investigate organizations whose programs are not in the best interest of the majority of the citizens, proved last week, beyond the shadow of a doubt, that the NAACP is trying to advance colored people.

DELANEY

That was one of the few things on which there was no disagreement after four days of probing into the NAACP and the Tallahassee Inter-Civic Council, which has sparked the bus boycott and other integration activity here since last May.

The committee piled up a great mass of evidence and testimony in an effort to show that the NAACP sponsored and was in control of the court action through which Virgil Hawkins, Daytona Beach, has tried to enter the University of Florida Law School since 1949.

But they didn't question Francisco Rodriguez of Tampa, who is attorney for the Florida NAACP, and who told at least one committee member that he would be glad to testify and could clear up practically all of the questions they spent the week asking him about it, instead.

### STUDENT CONFUSED

Hawkins and his attorney, Horace Hill of Daytona Beach, were probably the poorest witnesses heard, with the possible exception of Harold Owens, a Florida A & M freshman who apparently was so badly frightened and confused that he didn't know his own name.

What caused Hawkins and Hill to give such contradictory and confusing testimony, and to resort to what the committee called "evasion and hedging," was not immediately apparent.

Committee members pointedly warned all three of the penalty for not telling the truth while under oath, and lawyer members hinted strongly that an effort will be made to have Hill disbarred because of some of his activity.

In the case of Owens, even though the committee was so aware of his confusion that they called a recess so his attorney could try to get him straightened out, they were quick to accept a part of his testimony which was damaging to the Inter-Civic Council.

### HIS TESTIMONY

His testimony, unsubstantiated by any other witness, was to the effect that an officer of the council had promised him that he would be given legal aid and all his expenses paid, if he was arrested for testing the new bus seat assignment law, and that the same officer gave him and the five others involved a dollar apiece for bus fare.

Mark Hawes of Tampa, chief counsel for the committee at a salary of $1,250 a month, came dangerously close to trodding on the constitutional rights of some of the witnesses during the week, and at one point, when reporters complained about Hawes' tactics, Chairman Henry Land said he would caution Hawes about it.

There were also times when the questioning went so far afield as to be downright ludicrous.

### SENATORS UPSET

Senate members of the committee, all of whom come from North Florida counties with large Negro populations, (but where few register and vote) were quite upset over the lack of segregated seating in the audience and Negroes using the white rest rooms in the Capitol Building.

They were also disturbed when a Negro reporter and photographer sat with white reporters at the press end of the committee table, and one of them (Sen. Charley Johns of Starke) was all for ordering him moved had other reporters not talked him out of it.

Incidentally, the four House members of the committee come from some of the most populous counties in the State (Escambia, Orange, Broward and Dade) where politics don't demand quite the belligerent attitude toward the NAACP and Negroes in general, as in the districts represented by the Senate committee members.

### WELL ATTENDED

The hearing were well attended, Negroes dominating the audience, but also by a representative of the Governor's Bi-Racial Commission, an investigator from the Governor's office, two representatives from the state attorney's office, the Tallahassee police chief and several of his employes, and by a member of the executive committee of the local White Citizens Council.

The committee has an appropriation of $50,000 for its investigations.

No figures were available on how much was spent last week but as of Jan. 31, the committee had spent about $14,000, and the hearings will resume Feb. 18.

Although the committee was set up to investigate any and all organizations, sponsors of the bill made it clear they were aiming at the NAACP and the Tallahassee Inter-Civic Council, and there has been no indication that they plan to look into the Ku Klux Klan or any other organizations.

Senator Johnson, vice chairman, evided the question Thursday and would say only, "We haven't looked into any other organizations today."

One Negro leader summed it up this way, "The Legislature is going to do whatever it wants to do about the NAACP in April anyway, so it seems a totally unnecessary squandering of $50,000 of the taxpayers' money.

NAACP
ADMINISTRATION
1956-65

GENERAL OFFICE FILE

Repriggis Florida Investigation Committee
Apr 1958 - 1961

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Florid Suit

April 2, 1958

AIRMAIL

Mr. Robert W. Saunders
705 East Harrison Street
Tampa 2, Florida

Dear Bob:

I am planning to go to Miami this Sunday. I will use the time there to make certain that our appeals are perfected in our cases involving the legislative hearings and to at least obtain a rough draft of the brief which I will file in those cases. I expect to be staying at the Sir John Hotel. So, if you want to get in touch with me, you can reach me there, and if I am not there, through Father Gibson or Graves.

I am interested in the legislative background which led to the establishment of the investigating committee. Any newspaper reports or statements by members of the legislature or Governor or any other official documents of any kind which would throw some light on the purposes and the reasons for the committee's establishment would be helpful. If you have any such information as that available, please get it to me during this period.

Sincerely yours,

Robert L. Carter
General Counsel

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Florida Sec. 1

April 2, 1958

AIR MAIL

Mrs. Walter Perry
1664 Meridian Avenue
Miami Beach, Florida

Dear Ruth:

I am planning to return to Miami on Sunday and spend a few days down there which will be devoted to perfecting our appeals in these cases and to doing some work on the brief which we intend to file.

One area that I am particularly interested in exploring involves the background and history of the establishment of the investigating committee. Are there any sources, debates, official documents, newspaper stories, etc., which reveal (either by official statements by members of the legislature and speeches or statements of the Governor, etc.,) the purposes and reasons for the legislation establishing the investigating committee? I am hoping that there is something of that nature which would give us the basis of an argument that the purpose of the committee is to destroy the effectiveness of the N.A.A.C.P. as an organization, and I am hopeful that with your library resources you might know where to direct me, if any material is available at all.

As I believe I told you when I was down there, one thing that we have gained is a reprieve, and we probably will know what the Supreme Court has decided about the case which I wrote to you about the last time--the right of a city to discharge an employee who asserts constitutional rights before a court or in a legislative hearing. I doubt, no matter how fast this thing is done, that court action on your appearances before the committee will come up before June.

We learned that the City Attorney had bought copies of the record in your case, which information you have, I am sure by this time, but I would suspect that this was merely a routine matter.

At any rate, I would like to get our brief together and filed some time during the week of April 14. This might mean

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that the court might hear argument some time in May or early June. The Supreme Court, I hope, will have decided the other case long before then.

See you soon.

Sincerely yours,

Robert L. Carter
General Counsel

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Florida Suit

April 24, 1958

AIRMAIL

Mrs. Walter Perry
1664 Meridian Avenue
Miami Beach, Florida

Dear Ruth:

Just a note to thank you for your letter of April 7. I too was disappointed in not getting back to Miami to see you and Walter again.

I would appreciate it if you would keep those newspaper clippings that are pertinent. The brief had not been filed when you wrote. In fact, I sent a draft of the brief down to Graves about a week later, but I decided not to include any of that material in this brief. On my next trip to Miami, I will go over this material that you have to see what there is in it that we may find use for on a subsequent occasion.

I possibly will get down to Miami in June and I'll look forward to seeing you and Walter then.

With kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

Robert L. Carter
General Counsel

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# National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

**MIAMI BRANCH**

OFFICE OF THE ~~SECRETARY~~ Vice-President
1664 MERIDIAN AVENUE, MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA

8427APR 9'58

April 7, 1958

Mr. Robert L. Carter, General Counsel
NAACP
20 W. 40th St.
New York 18, N.Y.

Dear Bob:

I was pleased to hear from you the other day. Yes, I knew about our City Attorney buying copies of the record in my case. I heard this from Jack Orr who went to talk with him some time ago, and the City Attorney told Jack at that time that he was going to buy a copy. But as you say, I feel this was a matter of routine (I hope!).

To bring you up to date, at the last Library Board meeting, the matter of Ruth Perry vs. the library, City of Miami Beach and all maintainers of the status quo was not brought up at all. I heard from a Board member a few days before the meeting, and she told me that she was going to try to see that it was not brought up. Thank goodness there are three members on the Board who think as we do, and all three, I am happy to say, are more than Board Members, they appear to be my staunch supporters and friends. For which I am very thankful. A 4th member (out of the 7) may be swayed our way, in a pinch, I think. At least right now all seems to be quiet, and I do not believe anything will happen at all unless there was a possibility of my appearing before the Judge to be tried for contempt. If this possibility occurs, then we will have to do some fine and fancy groundwork. However, until that time, I am gathering my strength for future fights.

I was glad you did not have to make the trip down here unnecessarily, however, I must say (in a personal way)that Walter and I were sorry you did not come. We had looked forward to seeing you, and hope that it will not be too long before we meet again. Let us hope that in the future we can meet some time without the dire thought of trying to keep this white renegade out of jail!

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National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
MIAMI BRANCH
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
1664 MERIDIAN AVENUE, MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA



I had looked over my files and pulled out all the newspaper clippings that might be pertinent, but I guess you will not need them now, will you, since Mr. Graves has already filed the brief. I have tried to keep newspaper clippings on as much material as I have room to store; and some of them go back to 1954. Several clippings were very good, telling of the background of the committee, a statement by the 1st Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Land, several statements by Collins, etc. However perhaps they will be useful some other time. There is no doubt in my mind that by newspaper clippings alone, it could be proved that the Committee was formed for no good, was up to no good, and still is the same.

Well, I must not take up the time of my counsel, because I expect you to sit at your desk up there and devise more and devious ways for us to pursue down here in the lion's den.

Let me hear from you when you have a spare moment. I will report anything out of the ordinary. Walter joins in best regards to you.

Sincerely,

Ruth

Ruth W. Perry

P.S. Oh, by the way, I found out something interesting the other day. One of the Library Board members who has been very inimical to me and my case, I understand owns slum property in Miami in the Negro district. There has been a series of articles running in the Miami Herald about the slums, and her name was mentioned as one of the owners. I didn't even think of this possibility, but it explains things, doesn't it? Is my face redder than usual, because I delivered quite a scathing ~~indixx~~ report on slum conditions in my column a few weeks ago! If I'm not hung for one thing, I surely will be for another. I'm afraid you are going to be kept busy with me.

R.

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Florida Suit

April 25, 1958

Mr. Robert Saunders
705 East Harrison Street
Tampa 2, Florida

Dear Bob:

Thanks very much for sending me the newspaper clippings. I am sure they will prove very helpful.

I have received a letter from a Mr. Sanders Reed and Mr. Nathaniel Cannon authorizing the NAACP to take whatever steps are necessary to end desegregation in the schools in Tampa. The fact is, I suppose you sent me this information.

We will see what we can do about it.

Sincerely yours,

Robert L. Carter
General Counsel

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
20 WEST 40th STREET, NEW YORK 18, N. Y.
LOngacre 3-6890

*Please direct reply to:*
Robert Saunders
705 E. Harrison Street
Tampa 2, Florida

8669APR10'58

April 9, 1958

Mr. Robert L. Carter
General Counsel, NAACP
20 West 40th Street
New Y ork 18, New York

Dear Bob:

Under separate cover, I have forwarded to you news clippings on the subject matter requested by you. However, I want to state that I also have sent to the National Office additional clippings on what actually happened in the sessions of the state legislative body. These clippings were forwarded to Gloster and to Roy and should be in their files.

Included in the clippings is one whice quotes a Prentiss Pruitt of Jefferson County. Pruitt is no lnger in the state legislature. In 1956-57 he was listed in the House of Representatives Journal as the "lobbyist for a group sponsored by Mark Hawes." The title was "For legislation in the best interest of the People of Florida." I have this some where in my files but I cannot locate the journal. However, during the 1957 session, when all of the bills against the NAACP seemed doomed, Mark Hawes requested permission to appear in their defense. The permission was denied because he was registered as a lobbyist.

The newly proposed constitution for the state which was approved by the special session which met in the Fall of 1957, also contains the following section:

Article X; Section 8: White and Colored--Separate Schools.

White and Colored Children shall not be taught in the same school, but impartial provision shall be made for both.

This Constitution comes up for popular approval in the Fall of 1958.

Please let me know if there is other information that you may desire.

Bob Saunders

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63RD YEAR—No. 283

# Special Legislature Adjourns

## One New Race Bill, Proposed New Constitution Approved In 10-Day Session

By MARTIN WALDRON
Tribune Staff Writer

TALLAHASSEE, Oct. 9.—The Florida Legislature adjourned tonight after being embroiled in a racial stew for 10 days.

Although it appeared for a time they might legislate schools completely out of business, the legislators went home with only one new bill—one which would close schools automatically if federal troops moved in.

This was the bill introduced yesterday by Rep. Jim Moody of Hillsborough County and subsequently adopted.

One member of the state senate, Harvie J. Belser of Bonifay, resigned today in protest against what he called "gutlessness" on the part of legislative leaders and Gov. LeRoy Collins.

Belser said the legislature had passed up many opportunities to keep Southern traditions alive. He predicted pupil assignment laws would be thrown out by the courts and Florida would end up with integrated schools.

**Constitution Approved**

The special session of the legislature adjourned at 8:45 o'clock after rushing through a final version of the proposed new constitution, which will be submitted to the voters of Florida in the 1958 general election for final approval.

When adjournment came, the senate had several race bills affecting public schools on its calendar, but supporters did not even try to get them adopted tonight.

Instead, senators spent the last few minutes singing Negro spirituals.

Sen. Tom Adams of Orange Park, one of the staunchest of the last resort advocates, expressed disappointment that the legislature adjourned without adopting stronger measures against integration.

"We must rely now upon the Governor. He has authority to close a school if an emergency arises, but the question is: will he?"

"In the Moody bill we have only a padlock to put on the barn door after the horse has escaped. It will close a school when federal troops appear. But federal troops will not appear until there has been violence.

"I wanted something that could check violence before it

(Continued on Page 10, Col. 3)

# Belser Quits Senate; Says Legislature Lacks 'Guts' To Fight For Segregation

## Bonifay Lawmaker Leaves Committee; Heads For Home

TALLAHASSEE, Oct. 9. (By Staff Writer)— Contrary to the end, Sen. Harvie J. Belser of Bonifay resigned from the senate this afternoon in a white-heat huff.

Belser

His sudden leaving came in the midst of a committee debate over a last resort school bill.

The committee had just voted against grafting the bill to provide for public schools to be closed onto a bill allowing parents to withdraw children from integrated schools.

The vote was 7-4.

And Belser, seized with a sudden overwhelming rage, said he no longer would be part of the legislature because it wasn't

## 50 BUSINESS FIRMS MAKE UNITED FUND HONOR ROLL

United Fund officials yesterday listed 50 Tampa business firms which have already been certified for the United Fund Hour-A-Month Honor Roll.

In order to qualify for the Honor Roll, 70 per cent of a firm's employes must donate a minimum of one hour each month to United Fund.

More than 300 Tampa firms are using the convenient, payroll deduction, hour-a-month plan which employes have approved as the easy way to contribute their fair share to the 1958 United Fund campaign.

All 50 firms on the Honor Roll were certified for the list on the first official day of the drive, Monday.

The first 50, listed in order that they reported:

WTVT

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which would close schools automatically if federal troops moved in.

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The vote was 7-4.

And Belser, seized with a sudden overwhelming rage, said he no longer would be part of the legislature because it wasn't standing up for Southern customs and traditions.

"The responsible people don't have the guts to stand up and fight for our traditions and that goes for the chief executive downstairs," he said.

"We have had an opportunity to try to do something to preserve our customs," he told the committee. "I find I am on the minority side in the legislature. I do not care to be any part of it.

**Reference To Collins**

"All I have heard the last few days is that the Governor will not approve this bill, or he will not approve that bill.

"I don't care what the chief executive downstairs wants."

Belser said he had enjoyed associating with other senators in his brief term.

"But I cannot go home and tell my people we have conscientiously represented them when we have passed up the opportunities we have."

He rose to his feet, glared at a crowd packed around the corner where the committee was meeting and started to stalk away.

Sen. Charley E. Johns, who was in the crowd, pushed forward, and shook his finger at Belser.

"I hope that this is in the hea

**(Continued on Page 10, Col. 1)**

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The first 50, listed in order that they reported:

**WTVT**
**Louis Benito Advertising**
**Tampa Coal Company**
**Tampa Girl Scouts**
**Gulf Fertilizer Company**
**United Fund Staff**
**Exchange National Bank**
**R. E. McCarthy & Associates**
**Martin Outdoor Advertising Company**
**Real Estate Title Company**
**Acme Finance Company**
**Scott Finance Company**
**Mutual Finance Company**
**B. Marion Reed Company**
**Gandy Liquors, Incorporated**
**D. G. Daniels, Incorporated**
**Phenix Supply Company**
**Catholic Charities Bureau**
**Florida Grower Press**
**Henry Quednau, Incorporated**
**Joyner Concrete & Septic Tank Company**
**MacDonald Printing Company**
**Boys Club of Tampa**
**G. Ferlita & Sons**
**Peninsula State Bank**
**Russell S. Bogue & Company**

**(Continued on Page 7-B, Col. 4)**

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# Belser Quits Senate; Says Legislature Lacks 'Guts'

(Continued from Page 1)

of debate," Johns said. "I want you to reconsider. Your people need you here to help those of us who feel like you do."

"No sir, no sir," said Belser.

He shoved through the crowd and made his way to the corridor, his brown suit fairly twitching as he walked.

At a refreshment stand near the senate, he stopped for a cup of coffee. When a reporter offered to buy it for him, he snapped: "No comment. No comment."

He paid for the coffee, took a sip of it, and said, "I can't stay here anymore where people don't seem to want to try to do anything for the people."

**Takes Coffee Along**

He took his coffee and left.

Back in the committee, startled members of the education committee pondered for a moment.

Then Sen. William Gautier of New Smyrna said he would move that the committee reconsider the refusal to graft the last resort bill onto the parent option plan.

The vote was 5-5.

A tie vote in committee means the motion fails.

Senator Johns, not a member of the committee, asked for a few minutes indulgence. He said he would try to get Belser to return and cast a vote or give his proxy.

Johns searched and searched and couldn't find him.

He called Belser's hotel and was told Belser had checked out and was gone.

**That's Irony"**

"That's irony for you," said Sen. L. K. Edwards of Irvine, chairman of the committee. "If he hadn't left like that, his motion would have passed."

The senate already had passed the last resort bill, but supporters had been unable to get the two-thirds vote needed to get it in the house.

If it had been grafted onto the parent option plan as an amendment, it would have taken only a simple majority in the house to get it in since the house already had passed the parent option plan.

Johns called the highway patrol and asked that it stop Belser and try to get him to return to Tallahassee.

A patrol car stopped him in Quincy, and relayed Johns' request, but Belser told the patrolman he was "fed up" and continued on his way.

The Governor's office said Belser had not submitted a formal resignation.

# Special Session Of State Legislature Adjourns

(Continued from Page 1)

started. We don't want anyone hurt. We can only wait and hope now that nothing happens," he said.

Two key backers of the last resort bill in the house, Reps. J. Emory Cross of Alachua and William Chappell of Marion, predicted some form of the bill will be enacted by the legislature, if the push to integrate continues.

Sen. Randolph Hodges of Cedar Key made a concerted effort during the day to get a glorified last resort bill amended into Moody's federal troops bill.

He agreed to let his last resort amendment go to a special education committee for inclusion in a parent option plan which was pending before the senate.

The senate committee refused to graft the amendment, and Belser resigned.

Sen. Doyle Carlton of Wauchula, led the fight against including the glorified last resort in the federal troops bill.

Carlton said it would mean the death of the troops bill since Gov. LeRoy Collins certainly would veto it.

The glorified last resort would provide that public schools could be closed to escape integration, and could be leased to private corporations.

It is almost certain that all last resort bills would be held unconstitutional.

**Amended Again**

The present constitution provides that the state must keep a public school system, and the proposed new constitution was amended today back to where it also would require it.

But the new constitution would allow the state legislature to appropriate money to private, non-church schools while maintaining a public school system.

The federal troops bill, passed and sent to the governor, would provide that a school automatically was closed in the event federal troops or the federalized National Guard was ordered to a school to restore peace or enforce integration.

It would provide that parents could request school boards to transfer their children to schools where there was no disorder.

In senate debate this morning, Senator Carlton chided those who voted for the interposition resolution in the Spring.

This resolution said the U. S. Supreme Court's school integration decision was meaningless so far as Florida was concerned.

**'Solved Problems'**

"What happened?" Carlton asked. "I thought it solved all our problems. Didn't we tell the U. S. Supreme Court that its decision was null and void so far as Florida was concerned?"

He said it must not have been as effective as its sponsors had said it would be. "Else we wouldn't be here with this last resort bill," he said.

Senator Hodges asked if Governor Collins hadn't written a letter disowning the resolution when he mailed it to the other 47 governors, Supreme Court ordered there, would be a good law and probably all that was needed.

"With this, we could extricate ourselves from such a position as now exists in Arkansas," he said.

"The last resort bill simply should be a last resort bill. When you give the people of our counties a vehicle or an arm whereby they can go and circulate petitions you are giving them an instrument whereby they can commit educational suicide."

**Says People 'Reckless'**

He said people "are reckless and careless" in signing petitions, and ventured to say he could get names on a petition to burn the state capitol or to lynch the most virtuous woman in the state.

Sen. Harry Stratton, of Callahan, who said he yielded to no one in the senate in his position as an advocate of segregation, said he did not think the last resort bill should be grafted on to the federal troops bill.

He said Collins had vetoed one last resort bill, and had said he would veto this one if passed.

"We are butting our heads against a wall," he said.

What was the use, he argued, in killing Moody's bill with certainty by tacking on the last resort.

In the end, Hodges was swayed by the arguments to the extent he could see the handwriting on the wall.

**Withdraws Request**

He withdrew his request to amend Moody's bill, and it sailed through the senate, 36-1, with only Frank Houghton, St. Petersburg Republican, voting against it.

Hodges said he would agree to send his amendment to the education committee for possible grafting on the parent option plan or a jurors mercy bill.

This paved the way for Senator Belser's dramatic resignation later in the day.

## Other Legislative

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**Other Legislative News On Pages 5A And 7D**

judges, members of Congress and so on as directed by the legislature.

**'Glad He Did'**

"Yes," said Carlton, "and I'm glad he did."

Hodges said this act by the Governor may have helped reduce its effectiveness.

Carlton said he was sure it had. He reminded senators that he had warned at the time that the interposition resolution might backfire, that it might become the very means for breaking down segregation in Florida schools.

"What happened along these lines?" he asked. Then he answered himself.

"A Negro parent in Palm Beach County took the resolution into federal court within 10 days of its passage and tried to get his child entered into white schools, citing the resolution as proof that Florida was not trying to obey the U. S. Supreme Court's decision to desegregate schools."

**Tries to Stop Debate**

Sen. Fred O. Dickinson, of Palm Beach, who voted for the interposition resolution, tried to shut off debate at this point, contending Carlton was not talking on the question before the senate, which was whether to admit Hodges' last resort bill as an amendment to Moody's federal troops bill.

Carlton then began to speak on personal privilege, wanting to finish his remarks.

"Federal Judge Choate had this to say about that marvelous legal document that was going to solve all our problems," Carlton went on. He said: "I believe that the interposition resolution as passed by the Florida Legislature is unconstitutional and it bears the brand of politics, and has no place in this court."

"And he went on to say all the people of Florida hadn't approved it, that the Governor of Florida had registered his protest."

**Warns of Pitfalls**

With this history in mind, Carlton said, Florida might well watch out for pitfalls which might be created by hastily-conceived and ill-advised laws.

Carlton said Moody's federal troops bill providing for the closing of a school if troops are

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# Last Resort Proposal Revised

## Florida House Approves Its Combination With 'Parent Option'

TALLAHASSEE, Oct. 7. (By Staff Writer) — The house tonight roared its approval of the introduction of a bill which would allow public schools to be leased to private corporations to escape integration.

The bill combines selected features from the "last resort" school bill and the "parent option" plan proposed by Polk Rep. Ben Hill Griffin, Jr.

A steam-roller, which had built up since noon, flattened the small opposition to the introduction of the bill, and when a voice vote was taken on the introduction, at least 75 representatives voted for it.

**Committee Hearing**

The bill, sponsored by Rep. Gordon Frederick of Seminole County, will go before the house public education committee at 9 A.M. tomorrow for a public hearing.

At the same time, the committee will take up the senate version of the last resort school bill and the parent option plan, the introduction of which was approved a short while earlier tonight.

In explaining his bill tonight, Frederick said it was milder in many ways than the so-called last resort bill which the house has twice refused to admit.

For one thing, he said a vote to close a school could only follow a petition by 25 per cent of the voters. The last resort bill required only 15 per cent of the voters to sign a petition.

It makes other changes, such as protecting the tenure of teachers thrown out of work because of schools being closed.

**Could Be Leased**

If the public approves such closing, the school can be leased to a private corporation for from one to five years.

Parents would have an option on whether to send children to a public school in the area or to the privately-operated public facility.

Schools would not be the only thing affected.

Other public facilities, including hospitals and swimming pools, also could be handled in the same manner to [illegible] segregation.

**Mann Opposes**

Rep. Bob Mann of Hillsborough spoke against introduction of the bill, saying that it would destroy the state's public school system.

"I object to the transfer of schools to private operation," he said.

Rep. W. C. Herrell of Dade denounced the "parent option" plan as "one quick stroke to destroy boards of education.

"We now compel our children to go to school and become educated," he said. "If you stop, the children pulled out will probably be the very ones who need educating worse."

Mrs. Beth Johnson, making her first speech on the house floor since her recent election as Orange County representative, urged the house to admit the bill as a compromise.

**Report Pressure**

Many of the legislators returning from a weekend in their home counties reported they were under sharp pressure from constituents who wanted them to do something to prevent the Little Rock integration crisis [illegible] Florida

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It makes other changes, such as protecting the tenure of teachers thrown out of work because of schools being closed.

**Could Be Leased**

If the public approves such closing, the school can be leased to a private corporation for from one to five years.

Parents would have an option on whether to send children to a public school in the area or to the privately-operated public facility.

Schools would not be the only thing affected.

Other public facilities, including hospitals and swimming pools, also could be handled in the same manner to [illegible] segregation.

**Mann Opposes**

Rep. Bob Mann of Hillsborough spoke against introduction of the bill, saying that it would destroy the state's public school system.

"I object to the transfer of schools to private operation," he said.

Rep. W. C. Herrell of Dade denounced the "parent option" plan as "one quick stroke to destroy boards of education.

"We now compel our children to go to school and become educated," he said. "If you stop, the children pulled out will probably be the very ones who need educating worse."

Mrs. Beth Johnson, making her first speech on the house floor since her recent election as Orange County representative, urged the house to admit the bill as a compromise.

**Report Pressure**

Many of the legislators returning from a weekend in their home counties reported they were under sharp pressure from constituents who wanted them to do something to prevent the Little Rock integration crisis from being repeated in Florida.

Supporters of the last resort bill threw their weight behind the new bill, and Rep. Welborn Daniel of Lake County said it was a much improved version of it.

Rep. J. Emory (Red) Cross of Alachua walked the bill around the house this afternoon, picking up support for it.

Cross, leader of the last resort school bill forces, said he would not make another attempt to get his bill introduced.

He said he likes this version better.

The senate has approved the last resort bill, but it probably would accept the Frederick version.

Rep. Fred C. Petersen of Pinellas, a Republican, introduced a memorial to Congress urging that a constitutional amendment be submitted which would permit integration on a national or state option basis.

"It is imperative that this issue be resolved in a peaceful manner within our constitutional framework so that threatened resistance, riots and bloodshed be prevented," the memorial said.

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# State PTA Meet May Get Into Segregation Fight

ORLANDO, Nov. 4. (AP)— The 34th convention of the Florida Congress of Parents and Teachers opens here tomorrow night. There is a possibility it will erupt into a battle over integration before it ends Thursday night.

Several delegates have said they expect a floor fight inspired by White Citizens Councils to reverse PTA resolutions passed in 1955 and 1956 urging the state to move "realistically in the integration of schools and implementing of the law of the land."

Segregations also were reported planning an effort to put through a resolution supporting separation of the races.

**Convention Platform**

The convention platform, containing resolutions, will be read Wednesday morning and again Thursday morning. It will come up for adoption after the second reading.

Mrs. Ralph Hobbs of Cataula, Ga., vice president of Region of the National PTA, will speak at the opening convention session tomorrow night.

The platform plank on integration consists of one sentence asking for "intelligent cooperation with schools and other governmental authorities in each community toward a just solution of the complex problem of segregation in the public schools."

Dr. Henry C. Fox, chairman of the platform committee, said the plank is in line with the PTA general policy of noninterference with school administrative matters.

"We take the position that we are ready and willing to cooperate if asked. We don't attempt to say what stands should be taken," said Fox, principal of Little River Elementary School at Miami.

**Send Letters**

White supremacy groups have indicated they will try for a plank in favor of maintaining segregation. White Citizens Councils groups throughout the state have been sending mimeographed letters to PTA branches in nearly every city urging a solid segregation platform.

About 30 parent-teacher groups of the 899 in the state have made suggestions about revising the platform along that line, Fox said.

Other proposed planks for this year's convention urge adequate local funds for public schools, development of programs suited to abilities of all pupils, opposition to unwholesome literature and support of the United Nations.

# Oslo Paper Says Russia To Send Up 125 Rockets

OSLO, Nov. 4, (AP)—Dagbladet said today that the Russians plan to send up 25 space rockets from Franz Josef Land in the Arctic, 70 from the central region of the Soviet Union, and 30 from the Soviet Antarctic station MIRNY during the International Geophysical Year.

The paper gave the Russian monthly the Soviet Union as the source of its information.

The report said the rockets will not carry satellites, but will either release parachute-borne instruments or just zoom through the outer atmosphere sending signals as they go.

The Russian monthly also said the first Russian rockets carrying living creatures were fired six years ago.

"Each rocket yet launched has carried two dogs," the paper said.

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# PTA Rejects Proposal It Support Segregation

11-6-57

By HELEN FOREMAN
Tribune Staff Writer

ORLANDO, Nov. 6—Argument-weary delegates to the Florida Congress of Parents and Teachers today defeated an effort to put the organization on record in favor of segregation in public schools.

The vote, 494 to 445, was the first of two necessary to adopt the controversial "Item 2" of the group's platform for 1957-58 action. A second tally of delegates' opinions will be taken tomorrow morning.

"Item 2," as it stands now and with all of today's attempts to make it pro-segregation failing, avoids even the mention of segregation or integration. It calls instead for "cooperation, when requested, with school and other local officials working toward intelligent solutions of the problems which face the schools."

**Fight No Surprise**

The floor fight over the racial question had been expected prior to the convening of this 34th annual meeting, from delegations urged on by White Citizens Councils.

The battlelines formed on two sides: those who wanted a stronger stand for segregation, and those who wanted the Congress to continue a middle-of-the-road policy without trying to direct administrative policies.

Feeling on both sides was evident in voting on both "per-

(Continued on Page 7-B, Col. 3)

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# PTA Rejects Proposal For Stand On Segregation

(Continued from Page 1-A)

manent" and "1957-58" platform planks.

Dr. Henry C. Fox, chairman of the platform committee, opened this section of the morning's program about 11 o'clock by stating that a permanent platform was being proposed this year for the first time.

He said the adoption of its broad, general policies of striving to improve the welfare of children, would obviate the necessity to adopt a similar platform annually. He spoke also of the action platform (on which the debated "Item 2" appears) as one which would be adopted only for the year 1957-58.

In detailing the procedures to be followed in the first reading of the platforms he said that all discussion should take place on this, the first reading, but that the platforms would have to be voted on twice by the Congress — the second time at the Thursday morning meeting.

A small flurry, spearheaded by Otis Guy, Marianna, and Delegate Kowolski, Orlando, asking for more study of the platform, and a change in adoption procedure, was stilled by a large majority vote of the assembly.

Doctor Fox read the sections of the permanent platform separately and they were adopted by the group without comment until Item 5 of the section headed, In the Community, was read.

**U. N. Debates Also**

This states that the Florida Congress advocates: "Conscientious support of the United Nations and its agencies, believeing the United Nations to be an outstanding instrument for world peace."

Mrs. Beatrice Inman, Jacksonville, moved to delete this item from the permanent platform, and found supporters in Paul Conrad, Southport, and Otis Guy, Marianna, who said, "The U. N. is trying to force integration of us."

The motion to delete support of the the United Nations was voted down by the assembly and the permanent platform was adopted at the first of two necessary readings.

As microphones were being adjusted so that delegates could be heard more easily, Dr. Fox said that every opportunity had been given the local PTA's to send suggestions to the platform committee, to prevent "ill-considered, last-minute items being brought before the congress."

He also said: "The Florida PTA needs to guard its reputation that it always has clean hands, and that he had been "disturbed by reports of outside pressure groups."

"Let us be sure we are working for the interests of our children and the PTA organization, and not for outside groups," he said.

**Duval Plank Proposed**

The first item of the action platform was passed quickly. Item 2 was read, and immediately Mrs. Dan Christ, Jacksonville, moved that it be deleted and this substituted—that the congress recommends for study, fact-finding and for possible action: "Intelligent cooperation with schools and officials of the State of Florida in each community toward maintaining segregation in the public schools of Florida."

This resolution had been passed by the Duval County PTA Oct. 22, Mrs. Christ said. She also expressed the opinion that Item 2 as proposed in the prepared platform, meant only that "we are ready for integration."

"I am not one of the spitting, rock-throwing segregationalists, but I feel that the PTA should say we are against integration once and for all," she said.

Mrs. J. L. Stadenmeyer, Jacksonville, said: "We must get out of the middle of the road," and quoted from a report on Washington, D. C., schools that she said showed lowered health and moral standards since integration was effected there.

Delegates against the platform Item 2 were alternated on the public address system with delegates for it. The delegates wanting to keep Item 2 as written included Mrs. Charles Mitchell, Miami, Mrs. Shipland, Winter Park, and others who said that the PTA should be a body of parents working for the welfare of their children and not one attempting to take over administrative duties.

As other delegates formed a line to speak in favor of what immediately became known as the Duval motion, Hugh Buerke of Hillsborough High School, Tampa, moved to table Item 2 of the platform and all subsidiary motions.

The parliamentarian said that if this motion were passed anything concerning Item 2 could be taken up only at a later date. The motion was defeated and debate continued.

**Instructed by Home PTAs**

J. W. Peebles, Wildwood, said that Sumter County had instructed him to endorse the Duval motion. Otis Guy, Marianna, said he had been instructed that his group stood for segregation. Mrs. C. W. Johnson, Tampa, and Mrs. Phyllis Miller, Miami Beach, spoke for moderate action, the latter saying, "Let's not be stampeded into an emotional panic we'll be sorry for."

Dr. Foy, chairman of the platform committee, stated that the Duval motion "would tie our hands and make it difficult to maneuver to do the best things possible for the school situation."

A motion to stop debate was finally passed and caught about 20 delegates lined up behind the microphones waiting to seize their chance to speak.

**Standing Vote Called**

A show of hands was so close that President Mrs. William L. Mussett, who had been presiding over the session, asked for a standing count. The Duval motion to delete Item 2 and substitute the stronger Duval one was lost by just 49 votes out of 939.

Amid cries that delegates had voted twice, and demands for ballot votes, and adjournment for lunch the meeting continued.

Another motion, similar to the Duval one was proposed by Mrs. Ria A. Johnson, Bunnell, but after only a few speeches, which were limited to two minutes throughout, a motion to end debate was passed and the attention of the assembly returned to the original consideration, which was the adoption of the action platform Item 2.

A show of hands, about one-third opposed, and two-thirds in favor of the adoption of Item 2, showed that the moderates of the Parent-Teachers Congress had won—at least until the second reading and voting takes place tomorrow morning.

The permanent platform has to be approved by two-thirds vote of the congress tomorrow, and later to be ratified by two-thirds vote of the 12 state PTA districts.

The action platform will be presented item by item tomorrow morning, but it can only be deleted. In other words, the plank on "school problems" as accepted today can be dropped completely, but not changed.

The only look of trouble for Thursday came in indications that a new tack on the segregation problem might be taken when the president calls for new business tomorrow.

As for what might happen later, only one delegate threatened on the floor that local

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of the State of Florida in each community toward maintaining segregation in the public schools of Florida."

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As for what might happen later, only one delegate threatened on the floor that local PTA's might withdraw from the congress if pro-segregation action were not taken.

**Life Memberships Given**

State honorary life memberships, in recognition of outstanding service to youth and children, were presented to Mrs. C. Tedrick Barnes, St. Petersburg; Mrs. H. Howard Kiebler, St. Petersburg; Mrs. J. P. Blumhardt, Tampa; Mrs. Frances Wakeland, Bradenton, and Mrs. Betty McCall, Sarasota.

**Reitz Speaks**

Dr. Wayne Reitz, president of the University of Florida, told delegates in his speech tonight:

"Many well-informed people are not aware of a crisis in higher education in America.

"Present enrollment is 3,000,000 students. If the same percentage enrollment attends in 1970, the number will have risen to 6,000,000.

"In 1970 we will need 200,000 to 250,000 additional instructors in colleges and universities. In 1970, only 20 per cent of our college teachers will possess Ph.D.'s, which is a measure of the quality of education."

He also added that if a choice were to be made between teaching more students, or less students better, he favored teaching less.

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# Letters to The Tribune

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

## Segregationists Won PTA Fight

BROOKSVILLE—Your news coverage of the recent PTA Convention in Orlando correctly reported the vote to amend the action platform, and stressed this as a defeat for those favoring segregation in the schools.

However, you did not include the whole story which shows a victory, and not a defeat, for those opposing any endorsement of integration. The basic facts are:

1. In 1955 the platform adopted included an absolute endorsement of integration, and in 1956 was somewhat similar.

2. In 1957 the platform committee's original action platform read: "We pledge intelligent cooperaion with school and other governmental authorities in each community toward a just solution of the complex problems of segregation in the public schools."

3. Because of opposition at this convention, the committee changed this paragraph to read: "continuous improvement in our public school system by cooperation, when requested, with school and other local officials working toward intelligent solutions of the problems which face the schools."

4. This latter wording in the platform was adopted; it was absolutely non-committal and did not mention integration or segregation. So, this was a complete change from the two previous years and was a victory for those opposing any endorsement of integration this time.

5. As to the attempt to amend this latter version by an endorsement of segregation, while the counted vote showed it failed by 49 votes, I am informed that the true actual vote was just about even. Also affecting this vote is the fact that many delegates though not in favor of integration, hesitate to vote against any report of the platform committee, and the vote was not a true expression of those opposing or favoring segregation. Also it is reported that, out of a total vote of about 940, some 386 delegates were from Miami or Dade County.

The Association of Citizens Councils of Florida (of which I am an officer), while not attempting to dictate, did join with PTA delegates who opposed an integration platform — and our joint efforts were successful.

SAM C. PEACOCK

**Letters must bear the writer's signed (in ink or pencil) name and street address. On specific request, name will be withheld from publication. Short letters will be given preference. The Tribune reserves the right to shorten all letters to meet space requirements. Letters must be written exclusively to The Tribune Co. Copies of letters directed to someone else are not acceptable.**

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ING

SDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1957

# Collins Fighting Race Bill

## Governor Acts As 'Last Resort' Bill Passes Senate And Gathers More Support In House

By MARTIN WALDRON
Tribune Staff Writer

TALLAHASSEE, Oct. 2.—A second attempt to introduce the "last resort" school bill in the Florida house will be made tomorrow morning.

Predictions were that the bill would pass.

The senate passed the bill today by a 31-5 vote, but Gov. LeRoy Collins and the state school forces immediately jumped into action to prevent its passage by the house.

The vote in the house this morning was 54-34, four short of the 58 needed to introduce it.

It takes a two-thirds vote to introduce legislation in the special session, if the legislation is outside the scope of the Governor's proclamation calling the session.

This session is for constitutional revision, but as one house member said this morning, the Governor had better address the house again because it has forgotten what it was called for.

**Expect Passage**

The senate's "last resort" bill will come over tomorrow in special messages and by then, its supporters expect to have enough votes to pass it.

Governor Collins and school lobbyists were locked in a titantic underground battle against the bill and a proposed section of the new constitution which would pave the way for closing the public school system entirely.

A steady stream of representatives flowed in and out of the Governor's office much of the day as he lined up support.

Rep. J. W. McAlpin of Hamilton County, prime leader of the "last resort" bill, said he didn't know it enough votes would be for the bill tomorrow to insure it would get the two-thirds required.

But other supporters said they had eight firm commitments in addition to the 54 gathered this morning.

**Conference Not Held**

Governor Collins had a tenatative press conference scheduled for noon today, but it was canceled after reporters waited 35 minutes without seeing him.

Joe Grotegut, assistant to the Governor, said no press conference ever was scheduled, and that the Governor would be too busy today to arrange one.

But reporters had understood the Governor had one planned for noon.

Race feeling still ran high in the legislature today.

Rep. Frank Marshburn of Levy County, said he would introduce articles of secession tomorrow, if he thought they would be approved.

Sen. James E. (Nick) Connor of Brooksville, said he wasn't particularly pleased at what had happened at the conference in Washington between Southern

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**Says Should Report**

He said he thought Governor Collins should report on it to the Florida people, saying what he had promised Eisenhower.

The "last resort" bill approved by the senate today, would allow schools to be closed, if 15 percent of the registered voters in a school area asked for an election, and at the election, the proposition carried.

Sen. Randolph Hodges of Cedar Key, who sponsored the bill in the senate, obtained unanimous consent to introduce it. He brought it up for final passage with this statement:

"We are faced with the fact that we will have the Supreme Court order enforced with the

(Continued on Page 19, Col. 6)

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# Collins Fighting Race Bill

(Continued from Page 1)

cold steel of bayonets. Congressman Bob Sikes has predicted that Florida will be next. Let's pass the bill."

Answering a question by Sen. Douglas Stenstrom of Sanford, Hodges said the question of constitutionality of the measure had been taken care of by a proposed change made by the senate in the state constitution.

**One Word Change**

The change would substitute "free public education" for "free public schools" in the education article of the state constitution. Sen. John Rawls of Marianna, who offered it, said it would strengthen the state's hand "if we are ever faced with the Little Rock situation."

Another constitutional change made by the senate would clear the way for state universities to be operated as private institutions. The senate added to the provision requiring the legislature to provide for institutions of higher learning the words "as the legislature shall deem proper."

The house still has to consider the changes in the education article passed by the senate.

The changes in the proposed new state constitution to allow the state school system to be abolished were viewed as primarily to make such bills as the "last resort" bill constitutional.

**Senate Vote**

Voting for the "last resort" bill in the senate today were: Adams, Barber, Belser, Bishop, Boyd, Brackin, Branch, Bronson, Cabot, Carraway, Clarke, Connor, Davis, Dickinson, Edwards, Getzen, Hair, Hodges, Johns, Johnson, Kelly, Kickliter, Knight, Morgan, Neblett, Pearce, Pope, Rawls, Rood, Stenstrom and Stratton.

Against it were Shands, Eaton, Gautier, Houghton, Sutton.

Shands said he was for the bill but against it being brought up at this session.

Some of those who voted for the bill today were bitter foes of it in the regular session of the legislature last Spring.

One of them, Sen. Verle A. Pope had a short fillibuster in an effort to stall a vote on it in the Spring.

**House Roll Call**

Here is the roll call by which the house refused to permit introduction of the "last resort" bill:

For — Anderson, Arrington, Askins, Ayers, Beck, Chaires, Chappell, Crews, Cross, Daniel, Duncan, J. J. Griffin, Grimes, Hathaway, Horne, W. M. Inman, Jones, Kimbrough, Lancaster, Livingston, Manning, Marshburn, Mattox, McAlpin, R. O. Mitchell, Sam Mitchell, Muldrew, O'Neill, Patton, Peacock, Peavy, Peeples, Petersen, Putnal, C. A. Roberts, H. W. Roberts, E. C. Rowell, M. H. Rowell, Russ, Shaffer, Sheppard, S. C. Smith, C. D. Stewart, E. L. Stewart, Stone, Strickland, Surles, Wadsworth, B. D. Williams, J. R. A. Williams, Wise and Conner.

Against — Alexander, Bartholmew, Beasley, Blank, Carney, Cleveland, Frederick, Gibbons, B. H. Griffin, Jr. Herrell, Hollahan Hopkins, J. C. Inman, Johnson, Karl, Maness, Mathews, Moody, Musselman, Orr, Porter, Pratt, E. S. Roberts, Ryan, Shipp, R. J. Smith, Sweeny, Turlington, Usina, Vocelle, Weinstein, Youngberg, Zelmenovitz.

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# TAMPA MORNING TRIBUNE

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**BIBLE THOUGHT—Trust ye in the Lord forever, for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength.—Isaiah 26:4.**—There are 200,000,000,000 cells in our bodies. They have the power to mend wounds and multiply and divide and perform functions we do not even understand. An intelligence directs these cells while we are asleep as well as when we are awake. We trust the Infinite and the multitudinous tasks that mean life and health. Why should we doubt him in any circumstance?

## Wrong Time For Last Resort

AS THE SPARKS from Little Rock caught fire in Tallahassee, the Florida Senate resurrected this week the bitterly controversial plan for local option on suspending any school or schools that may face integration by court decree. The "Last Resort" bill is back before the assembly posing an issue first of basic policy, and an equally important question of timing.

With the principle of Last Resort, we had no quarrel last Spring in supporting Governor Collins' veto of the bill. Nor do we challenge it now.

But this is not the time to take up such drastic legislation. Nor are we satisfied that this particular bill has set up the right kind of machinery for putting the principle into practice.

* * *

The objectives of Last Resort in its origin were twofold. It was designed to provide a safety valve against violence, so that a school could close to keep blood off the streets. It also was designed to provide each community with a final, desperate choice, if the need arose, between integrating its public schools or closing them and substituting a system of private education.

The first objective has already been gained in Florida, in the 1956 law enabling the Governor to take any constitutional measure in time of emergency. The Governor can close a school if he wants to, in the same way that Governor Collins temporarily suspended buses at Tallahassee last year when the capital was abroil over the issue of bus integration.

Last Resort still offers the second objective—a way of letting each community decide if it would take the last extreme measure to avoid a schizophrenic impasse between federal law, as now interpreted, and prevailing custom.

But putting Last Resort to work is not nearly so easy as recognizing its theory, and the bill put through the Senate (so far stopped in the House) raises serious questions if the Senate has put enough thought into what it is doing.

The bill in Tallahassee now sets up the broad outlines for local option, by district or county, to suspend a school

Last Resort sponsors, in addition, propose a constitutional amendment declaring that the state shall provide a system of "free public *education,*" rather than "free public schools"; this is designed to clarify any constitutional question about the Last Resort machinery.

Manifestly, the adoption of such a system on any wide scale in Florida would prove vastly disruptive to the educational system; it would be a Herculean and expensive adjustment.

How well could private schools meet the need if suddenly great numbers of children turned up at their doors?

How would the state school dollar, allotted to irresponsible parents, be kept out of the barrom and the pari-mutuel window?

These are questions arising offhand which we have not seen answered in the Legislature.

Moreover, the petition requirement of 15 per cent to call an election is obviously too low. The absent mindedness of petition signers is notorious; we daresay 15 per cent of parents might sign a petition to repeal the law of gravity.

Yet perhaps the greatest weakness in the bill is the broad ground for petition and election. On any purported threat to the "health, safety and morals," an election could be called threatening the local school system. Such a movement could conceivably be launched against a school where a teacher or principal had fallen into public disfavor, or upon any rumor of school abuses some busybody might circulate.

* * *

Finally, the Legislature should remember that this is a special session called for constitutional revision, and that no school emergency confronts Florida. The diversion of legislative attention to the school integration issue may impair work on the Constitution, and the prospects for effective revision are dismal enough already.

It is not too early to begin considering the machinery for Last Resort, but the issue would better await a later session when the agenda is not already groaning under the weight of constitu-

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But putting Last Resort to work is not nearly so easy as recognizing its theory, and the bill put through the Senate (so far stopped in the House) raises serious questions if the Senate has put enough thought into what it is doing.

The bill in Tallahassee now sets up the broad outlines for local option, by district or county, to suspend a school or schools on petition of 15 per cent of the parents.

If suspension was the choice, then students could be assigned to schools in some adjoining district or county, or the school board could pay parents direct allotments to send their children to a private school, segregated or integrated as they chose.

Last Resort sponsors, in addition, propose a constitutional amendment declaring that the state shall provide a system of "free public *education*," rather than "free public schools"; this is designed to clarify any constitutional question about the Last Resort machinery.

Manifestly, the adoption of such a system on any wide scale in Florida would prove vastly disruptive to the educational system; it would be a Herculean and expensive adjustment.

How well could private schools meet the need if suddenly great numbers of children turned up at their doors?

How would the state school dollar, allotted to irresponsible parents, be kept out of the barrom and the pari-mutuel window?

These are questions arising offhand which we have not seen answered in the Legislature.

Moreover, the petition requirement of 15 per cent to call an election is obviously too low. The absent mindedness of petition signers is notorious; we daresay 15 per cent of parents might sign a petition to repeal the law of gravity.

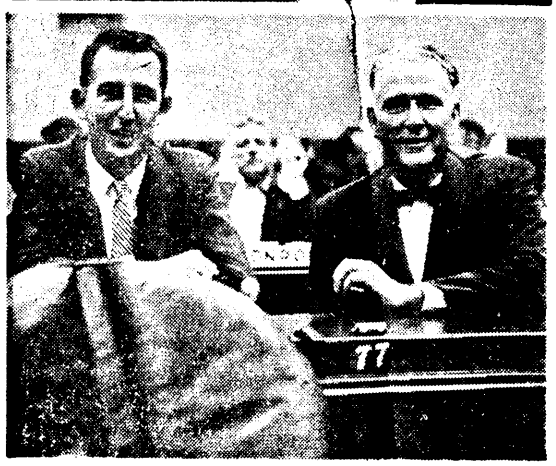
Yet perhaps the greatest weakness in the bill is the broad ground for petition and election. On any purported threat to the "health, safety and morals," an election could be called threatening the local school system. Such a movement could conceivably be launched against a school where a teacher or principal had fallen into public disfavor, or upon any rumor of school abuses some busybody might circulate.

* * *

Finally, the Legislature should remember that this is a special session called for constitutional revision, and that no school emergency confronts Florida. The diversion of legislative attention to the school integration issue may impair work on the Constitution, and the prospects for effective revision are dismal enough already.

It is not too early to begin considering the machinery for Last Resort, but the issue would better await a later session when the agenda is not already groaning under the weight of constitutional issues. Meantime, sponsors should find the answers to critical questions about their bill. They have a rough blueprint for closing a public school, but they have not worked out the specifications. Last Resort is designed to meet desperate emergency, but under the bill now in the Legislature there is good question whether Florida would be creating crisis instead of meeting it.

## Prospective Rivals



TALLAHASSEE, Oct. 1.—When Florida's House and Senate got together yesterday to hear Gov. LeRoy Collins' special address opening the constitutional revision session, seating in the house brought together representatives and senators who'll likely be election campaign foes next year. These included (top) Sen. Doyle E. Carlton, Jr., (left) and Rep. G. W. (Dick) Williams, both of Wauchula, and (bottom) Rep. Sam Gibbons (left) and Sen. Paul Kickliter, both of Tampa. Gibbons has already announced he'll oppose Kickliter, and Williams is expected to seek Carlton's seat.—(Tribune Photos).

ADVERTISEMENT

# Legislature Eyes Plan To Close Public Schools In New Charter

(Continued from Page 1)

D. Bailey said that from what he had heard about Rawls' proposal "it appears that it will destroy the constitutional mandate to support public education" and that he regarded this as a serious matter.

"There are a lot of questions about it I would like to ask, but it seems that it would lead to state financing of private schools and eventually would destroy our public school system as we know it," Bailey said.

"If this is the case then I am unalterably opposed to it."

Apparently, the plan is on its way for quick acceptance by the legislature, for it is in no mood to trifle.

The memorial it adopted today attacking Eisenhower was crystal clear and diamond hard in its stand.

"The legislature of Florida . . . hereby expresses a firm belief that the recent action of the President . . . in inflicting military rule upon . . . the state of Arkansas, is a far more serious threat to the security of the nation and our constitutional form of government than any present threat from abroad," the memorial said in part.

**Has No Force**

A memorial does not have the force of law, but is an expression of sentiment.

The legislature said in the document that it "emphatically denies" that the President has the right to "preemptorily use federal troops . . . to compel the enforcement of a questionable judicial edict requiring the enforced integration of the public schools."

"Such troops through exercise of brute force and with the high-handed tactics reminiscent of Hitler's storm troopers, declared their intention to rule the citizenry."

The resolution called upon Congress tho withdraw all funds and appropriations from any federal military force "directed to occupy any state without approval of the governor."

It also asked that Congress censure Eisenhower, saying if the President is permitted to determine the method of enforcing a federal decree . . . "the states will have been destroyed."

The senate constitutional amendments committee this afternoon adopted without dissenting vote the plan which might allow schools to be abolished.

Full implications of such action were not discussed.

Some school forces said later that the word "education" as substituted for "public school system" would destroy the mandate to the legislature to provide for a free school system, and could open the way for state subsidization of church schools, correspondence courses and private schools.

**Teachers Might Fight**

However, there was no indication whether the state's powerful block of 30,000 school teachers would fight against establishment of such a system.

In the first place, the proposed section is not yet in the proposed new constitution.

Secondly, the constitution has not been adopted by the legislature.

And third, the voters of the state have not yet put their stamp of approval on it.

It appeared today that the first step might be accomplished tomorrow.

The second was somewhat in doubt with opposition to the proposed apportionment formula picking up steam.

The third objection might never be overcome.

There also was some discussion this afternoon of abolishing the state National Guard in the new constitution, substituting instead a state militia supported entirely by state funds.

**Pays 90 Per Cent**

At present, the Federal Government puts up more than 90 per cent of the cost of the Florida National Guard and it can be called to federal duty at any time by the President.

The senate committee agreed to recommend for passage the revision article providing for a state militia, after discussing the advisability of dropping the section which authorizes a National Guard.

Sen. James E. Conner of Brooksville asked if it were possible to prevent federalization of state troops as President Eisenhower has done in Arkansas to meet the Little Rock integration crisis.

**Cites Costs**

"We could have a state militia without it being a National Guard if we wanted to pay the costs. The state pays only a small amount of the cost of maintaining the National Guard," Sen. B. C. Pearce of East Palatka said.

"I don't want them (Federal Government) to supply even money if they are going to use the guard to integrate schools," Conner said.

"What is the use of the guard if the President can call it into federal service and send it against our people?" Sen Drew Branch of Sumatra quired.

"It's true the President c do that, and I don't like wh he has done in Little Rock, bu we do get the use of them state purposes and I don't t we could afford to support active state militia," Pea said.

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# Race Group Subpoenas Witnesses

By MARTIN WALDRON
Tribune Staff Writer

TALLAHASSEE, Feb. 5. — Witnesses were being subpoenaed today for a public hearing Monday of a special legislative committee investigating Communism and race organizations in Florida.

The hearing is expected to delve into Communism, and advance reports were that there may be "startling" disclosures.

The list of witnesses may be made public tomorrow after subpoenas are served.

**Johns Won't Comment**

State Sen. Charley E. Johns of Starke, chairman of the committee, refused to say what will be aired at the hearing.

But there are persistent reports that it will be "red hot."

This is the committee, with a slightly different makeup, which investigated segregationist John Kasper and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People last year.

The committee may take a close look at some professors at the three state universities.

Sen. Bart Knight of Blountstown, a member of the committee, said last month he wanted to investigate reports that some college professors were paid agitators for the NAACP.

And Committee Investigator R. J. Strickland spent several days in Gainesville last month.

Strickland has been in almost every major city in Florida in the past three months, with much of his travel taking him to Tampa where he conferred with Committee Counsel Mark Hawes.

The Tallahassee meeting, first public hearing of the committee since its reorganization last June, probably will last two days and possibly three.

**Second Meeting**

A second meeting is scheduled in Miami during the last week in February.

There has been preliminary discussion about having a third meeting in Tampa.

Other members of the committee are Sen. Randolph Hodges of Cedar Key, Rep. W. C. Herrell of Miami Springs, Rep. Ben Hill Griffin, Jr., of Frostproof, Rep. J. B. Hopkins of Pensacola, and Rep. W. G. O'Neill of Ocala.

## Charges Attack

ATHENS, Feb. 5. (Reuters)— The Athens news agency said today a Turkish destroyer fired on a small fleet of Greek fishing boats yesterday and arrested two of them. The agency said the boats had been fishing off the coast of Lesbos in the Aegean and were returning home when attacked by the destroyer.

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# Ike Won't Order Troops From Little Rock, Saying Faubus Assurance Weak

MEMORIAL BLASTS IKE—

## Section To Allow Abolition Of Public Schools May Go Into New State Constitution

TALLAHASSEE, Oct. 1. (By Staff Writer)— A section which might allow abolishing of public schools in Florida was being written into a proposed new state constitution today.

The plan was conceived by senators who were alarmed at the turn of events in Arkansas where federal troops were enforcing integration by bayonets.

Racial undertones continued to dominate the special session of the legislature even as Gov. LeRoy Collins met in Washington with President Eisenhower in an attempt to ease Southern tensions.

The legislators, by overwhelming vote, adopted a resolution soundly condemning Eisenhower, and charging that federal troops in Arkansas were acting in a manner reminiscent of Hitler's storm troopers.

The school plan was conceived in a committee meeting this afternoon and is simplicity itself.

Where the constitution now says:

"The legislature shall provide for the establishment, maintenance and operation of a uniform system of free public schools, and for institutions of higher learning."

The proposal would have inserted for the words "public schools" the word "education."

Sen. John Rawls of Marianna said such a section would strengthen the state's position in racial disputes over school integration.

**"More Latitude"**

And Sen. Dewey Johnson of Quincy said it would provide "more latitude."

State School Supt. Thomas

(Continued on Page 6, Col. 3)

## Efforts To End Integration Crisis Collapse After Conference

WASHINGTON, Oct. 1. (AP)— A plan to solve the Little Rock integration crisis blew up tonight with a declaration by President Eisenhower that federal troops must remain in the Arkansas capital.

After a day and night of peacemaking efforts which seemed on the point of success, the President took the position that Gov. Orval Faubus had not given an ironclad pledge to use his full powers to prevent obstruction of school integration orders of a federal court.

Thus federal troops remain on the scene and the Arkansas National Guard stays under federal control.

In Little Rock, Faubus retired for the night without issuing a statement on Eisenhower's latest action, and Claude Carpenter, an aide, said the governor would not comment until tomorrow, when he has a press conference scheduled.

**"As Soon as Practicable"**

Four Southern governors had helped work out the peace plan in hours of conferences with Eisenhower and aides. Under it the President agreed to return the guard to Faubus and pull out federal troops as "soon as practicable," provided Faubus would pledge not to obstruct federal court orders and would promise to maintain law and order.

Shortly thereafter, Faubus had issued a statement at Little Rock, saying:

"I now declare that upon withdrawal of federal troops, I will again assume full responsibility, in cooperation with local authorities, for the maintenance of law and order, and that the orders of the federal courts will [redacted] by me."

**"Never My Intention . . ."**

The governor also declared, "It has never been my intention to obstruct the orders of the federal courts." When the National Guard was under his direction he used it to block integration of Little Rock's Central High School, ordered by a federal court, but declared his overriding purpose was to keep the peace.

A few words in the Faubus statement at Little Rock apparently proved the stumbling block that blocked the peace drive.

Gov. Luther Hodges of North Carolina, one of the governors who helped engineer the peace plan, said on NBC television late tonight that after the wording of Faubus' proposed statement had been discussed with him by telephone from Washington, Faubus added the words "by me" to its concluding sentence. Thus the sentence ended: ". . . the orders of the federal courts will not be obstructed by me."

**Added Unwittingly?**

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**(Continued on Page 6, Col. 3)**

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**Added Unwittingly?**

This evidently was at least one of the things which prompted Eisenhower to declare that the Faubus statement was not a pledge to use his full powers to prevent obstruction.

Governor Hodges said it was his opinion and his hope that the governor had added the words "unwittingly."

"I am hopeful the governor will straighten this out to everybody's satisfaction," he said.

Another of the governors, Theodore R. McKeldin of Maryland, said at Annapolis he was at a loss to explain the collapse of the peace plan.

"I thought it was all settled when I left the White House today," McKeldin said.

McKeldin indicated Faubus must not have issued the statement agreed upon by the four governors and Faubus.

"He (Faubus) in effect rubbed

**(Continued on Page 8, Col. 1)**

★ ★ ★

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PAPER Miami Herald
DATE: 2-27-58
PAGE

**This-Gusting Weather**

**Partly cloudy and continued warm. Windy today with possible showers during the afternoon. Small craft warnings displayed.**

MIAMI TEMPERATURES WEDNESDAY

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 a.m. | 70 | 1 p.m. | 71 | 7 p.m. | 71 |
| 8 a.m. | 70 | 2 p.m. | 71 | 8 p.m. | 70 |
| 9 a.m. | 70 | 3 p.m. | 71 | 9 p.m. | 70 |
| 10 a.m. | 71 | 4 p.m. | 72 | 10 p.m. | 70 |
| 11 a.m. | 72 | 5 p.m. | 71 | 11 p.m. | 70 |
| Noon | 71 | 6 p.m. | 71 | Mid. | 70 |

High, 73; low, 69; rainfall, T.

**The Mian**

**Thursday, February 27, 1958** **No. 87** ***Florida's Most***
**A Latin Americ**

—Herald Staff Photo by Bob East

**Negro Leader Argues With Probing Legislators Over Right to Leave Town**

***. . . the Rev. Edward T. Graham, with Attorney Tobias Simon, left finally granted permission by State Sen. Charley Johns, second from right; Mark Hawes, committee counsel, center***

# 4 Cited for Contempt At Probe of NAACP

By JOHN B. McDERMOTT
Herald Political Writer

A Florida legislative investigating committee cited four persons for contempt Wednesday in Miami during hearings attempting to show Communist manipulation of the racial question.

Two women — one accused by the committee of being a top Communist organizer here — were cited after refusing to testify under oath to anything but their names and addresses.

Bertha Teplow, 253 NE 34th St., was asked repeatedly by Committee Attorney Mark Hawes if she was an organizer and a dues collector for the Communist Party here.

Anna Rosenblatt, 608 Euclid Ave., Miami Beach, was asked if she had any Communist affiliation and if she paid dues to Mrs. Teplow.

They turned aside answers to all such questions.

**The Rev. Edward T. Graham, a Negro minister, and G. E. Graves Jr., attorney for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, were cited after invoking the First Amendment which guarantees freedom of speech and assembly.**

A fifth witness, Louis J. Popps, a Negro living in Richmond Heights, freely admitted he was a Communist from 1946 to 1950. Under questioning by Hawes, he said he later joined the NAACP.

Hawes asked repeated questions as to whether Popps remembered seeing any of his old Communist associates at NAACP meetings.

Popps vaguely recalled that

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**Mrs. Bertha Teplow**
*. . . contempt citation*

**Mrs. Anna Rosenblatt**
*. . . she refused, too*

# It's Four Years Later But Play's the Same

By BERT COLLIER
Herald Staff Writer

The curtain went up on a familiar scene when the legislative committee investigating alleged Communist - integrationist tieups in the Miami area opened its hearings Wednesday.

So far, the script followed closely a similar investigation by the Dade Grand Jury in 1954. The words, and many of the characters were the same.

**In the earlier study of alledged Communist activities here, former State Attorney George A. Brautigam summoned about 40 witnesses before the Grand Jury and asked questions about Red affiliations.**

Most of the witnesses refused to testify, citing the Fifth Amendment on grounds of possible self-incrimination.

Brautigam took the recalcitrant witnesses before Circuit Judge George E. Holt, who held them in contempt and sentenced each to a year in jail.

The sentences were set aside by the Florida Supreme Court. In one group of cases, the court said:

**"The real point for determination is whether or not one being investigated for Communist activities may refuse to answer questions because he fears his answers would incriminate him.**

"We are . . . driven to the conclusion that the commitment of the (petitioners) was without legal authority and that they should be and are hereby discharged."

Two of the witnesses cited Wednesday refused to answer questions on constitutional grounds.

Mrs. Bertha Teplow, 253 NE 34th St., was asked if she had ever been a state organizer for the Communist Party, and Mrs. Anna Rosenblatt, 608 Euclid Ave., Miami Beach, was asked if she had ever paid dues to Mrs. Teplow.

**Both read prepared statements declining to answer.**

The only difference between the present situation and that in 1954, attorneys pointed out, was that the present hearing is a legislative inquiry rather than a judicial proceeding.

The Legislature does not carry out contempt citations, but requests action by the courts.

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## Where To Find It


| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Amuse. | 3-7B | Horoscope | 9D |
| Bell | 1B | Jumble | 9D |
| Bourke | 4B | K'bocker | 4E |
| Burns | 1D | Kofoed | 8B |
| Class. | 8-19C | M'y-Go-R'd | 6A |
| Comics | 8,9D | Movies | 6B |
| Crane | 8D | Pennekamp | 6A |
| Crosby | 8B | Porter | 10E |
| Crossword | 8D | Othman | 8B |
| Deaths | 2B, 8C | Quick Q'z | 8D |
| Dunaway | 5D | Sokolsky | 8B |
| Editorial | 6A | Sports | 1-7D |
| Financial | 4-7C | Thompson | 8D |
| Gallup | 24E | T.V.-R'do | 8,9B |
| Goren | 9B | Vanderbilt | 19E |
| Graham | 10A | Weather | 2A |
| Harris | 6A | Womens | 1-3C |


Those who know dine at Famous Rest. 671 Wash. Ave.-Adv.

old Communist associates at NAACP meetings.

Popps vaguely recalled that he may have — but was unable to recall clearly just who was at what meeting.

The committee then recessed 25 minutes while Hawes and several committeemen went behind a locked door of an adjoining jury room with the witness. Popps did not return to the stand.

Earlier Graham dramatically testified that while he would refuse to answer questions about his NAACP and other affiliations, he felt every loyal American should take issue with any insinuation of being a Communist.

"No, I have never been a member of the Communist Party," he declared in response to a Hawes question. "I don't believe I ever will be. The philosophies of the Communist Party are not what I believe in."

**Graves, too, departed from his "constitutional" refusals to answer questions by announcing that he is not and has never been a member of the Communist Party.**

The contempt citations will go to Circuit Court. Refusal to answer the questions there — unless the court upholds the witnesses' constitutional claims — would mean contempt of court, subject to any penalty the judge decreed.

**Graham and other witnesses** also refused to give the committee records of the NAACP or any other organization.

**Graham won one argument with the committee. It finally granted him permission to attend a church meeting in South Carolina until Friday, although he is under subpena.**

The three-day hearings before the joint Senate-House committee opened in a blaze of television floodlights and before a capacity crowd in a fourth floor courtroom of the Dade County Courthouse.

The hearings will be resumed at 9:30 a.m. today.

Sen. Charley Johns of Starke, committee chairman, announced that the committee is investigating race relations, labor, education and communism.

**Hawes said that while the accent now is on communism there is no intent by the committee to label any witness a Communist because he has been subpenaed to testify.**

Mrs. Teplow, a brunette in

Turn to Page 2A Col. 8

J. H. Witt and party of 10, of Stillwater Drive, Miami Beach, make rhyme about the Bonfire Restaurant: "Eating in an environment of delight, where good food and prices are right." —Adv.

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10-1-57

# State Legislature Opens Constitution Revision Session

## Eyes Segregation Measures, But Will Wait Until Collins Sees Eisenhower

By MARTIN WALDRON
Tribune Staff Writer

TALLAHASSEE, Sept. 30. — The Florida Legislature went into special session today to revise the state constitution, meanwhile keeping a wary eye cocked on Little Rock.

Gov. LeRoy Collins, in a special address, gave the proposed new document his blessing, but said he wished legislators would make a few minor changes in the draft proposed by a joint senate-house conference committee.

Immediately after speaking, Collins left for Washington to confer with President Eisenhower on the removal of federal troops from Arkansas.

He made bare mention of the trip, or of talk of new Florida segregation legislation, in his speech, and had a tacit agreement any racial moves by the legislators would await results of his conference.

**House, Resolution**

The agreement didn't stop a resolution condemning use of federal troops in Little Rock from hitting the house floor within minutes after the special session assembled, however.

Collins did not make a direct appeal to the legislators, but there was no mistaking his meaning when, after saying he was leaving this afternoon to discuss the Little Rock crisis with the President, he said:

"I will deeply appreciate your good will, your prayers and your cooperation as we seek honorable, lawful and peaceful solutions to the problems arising from decisions of the United States Supreme Court."

Collins, newly-elected chairman of the Southern Governors' Conference and generally considered a moderate on the integration issue, said:

**"National Crisis"**

"Having American citizens, in an American city, driven at the point of the bayonets of American soldiers has indeed been a source of great shock and alarm to all of us. This is a time of naional crisis just as it is a time of crisis in our Southland.

"If, as governor of this state, I can make any contribution to a better understanding, and the finding of sound solutions, I regard it as my duty to the people of Florida to do it."

There has been considerable talk of reviving the so-called last resort public school suspension bill. Passed by the 1957 regular legislature but vetoed by Collins. It would set up machinery for the people of any

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There has been considerable talk of reviving the so-called last resort public school suspension bill. Passed by the 1957 regular legislature but vetoed by Collins. It would set up machinery for the people of any area to vote suspension of their schools if faced with no alternative to integration. State funds would be allocated to provide private school education.

Sens. Charley E. Johns of Starke, W. Randolph Hodges of Cedar Key and H. H. Hair of Live Oak all agreed, prior to hearing Collins, that any effort to revive the last resort bill or other drastic anti-integration legislation would await the result of the Washington meeting. The three are among the strongest segregationists in the senate.

**Await Developments**

Rep. William V. Chappell, Jr., of Marion County, who steered the last resort bill through the house during the regular session, said he also would await developments in Washington.

Hodges made it plain he thought the last resort bill should be adopted, but said he was willing to wait "as a courtesy to the Governor to see if the President will adopt a reasonable attitude toward the South."

Of the new constitution, admittedly, said Collins, the reapportionment section is not the best in the world, but said it was probably the only one which could be passed.

It calls for 45 senators and 114 representatives, and if

**(Continued on Page 9, Col. 2)**

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# Wise Actions On Race Bills

In the first days of the special legislative session a number of signs pointed to prompt passage of stringent anti-integration measures, even though the call for the meeting was limited by Governor Collins to Constitution revision.

Now the legislators have returned to their homes. They wrote into law only one bill that is designed to prevent a Little Rock in Florida. It is the measure introduced by Rep. Jim Moody of Hillsborough County which provides for automatic closing of any public school in event federal troops move onto the school property or in the vicinity to enforce an integration order.

Wiped out by adjournment was the last resort bill, which cleared the Senate early in the special session but could not muster the necessary margin in the House. Death blows were also given to the so-called parent option bill to permit a county school board to allow withdrawal of a child from an integrated school upon petition of a parent and the "jury mercy" bill to permit jury trials for persons accused of violating the compulsory school attendance law.

Some individuals may say the 1957 special session will be noted more for what it failed to adopt in the way of race bills rather than the measure it approved to keep Southern traditions alive. Perhaps that is the correct and will be the lasting judgment.

At the same time, we think there is a definite place for the Moody bill. It provides a way out and answers the demands of many citizens who have expressed abhorrence over the use of federal troops and unsheathed bayonets in Little Rock to enforce a court order. It assures that a parent will not be penalized under the compulsory attendance law and also bars any loss of state school funds to a county.

The really important things, however, are that the Legislature agreed not to fatally weaken the pupil assignment law now on the books and decided the time has not yet arrived for a last resort bill.

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FROM (Florida Clipping Service, Tampa)
Pensacola News
FLORIDA
DATE OCT 21 1956

# Council Speaker Challenges Critic to Disprove 'Facts'

The low moral and intellectual tone of a letter written by a certain Mr. Sam Green in the News-Journal issue of Sunday, October 14, about the speakers and the audience of a recent White Citizens Council meeting, presents an interesting study in human psychology. It is a psychological fact that we generally see in others our own reflection, and condemn in others those qualities about which we have a guilt complex.

Mr. Green states that he attended a meeting of the White Citizens Council at which Dr. Hugh G. Grant was the principal speaker, with an "open mind in order to learn something about the organization." Considering the tenor of Mr. Green's letter that statement is debatable. Certainly his letter to the News-Journal did not reflect the attitude of an objective seeker after facts.

For Mr. Green's and general information I would state that the White Citizens Councils as organized all over the South and in several other states, seek to maintain separation of the races as a means to continue the good race relationship existing between whites and Negroes prior to the decision of the United States Supreme Court abolishing segregation in the public schools.

The Federation for Constitutional Government, of which Dr. Hugh Grant and myself are members and whose spokesman I was at the recent meeting, seeks to curb the encroachment of the federal government and the United States Supreme Court on states' rights and the rights of individuals. It seeks a return to the constitutional government of the founding fathers of the republic. It seeks to restore the concept of government voiced by Thomas Jefferson: "The best form of government is the least form of government." Segregation is only one area where the Supreme Court has violated constitutional government and states' rights. The Federation for Constitutional Government desires to protect the constitutional rights of all American citizens, regardless of creed or color. Neither the White Citizens Council nor the federation is anti-Negro—only pro-American.

"Who is this Dr. Hugh G. Grant?" Mr. Green asked in his letter. If he will take the trouble to consult "Who's Who in America" (Vol. 25, page 959) he will learn that Dr. Hugh Grant is a diplomat, journalist, and lecturer. He served in the U.S. Army in the First World War. He was a member of the Federal Board for Vocational Education; member of the Alabama State Department of Education; associate professor of political science and head of the Department of Journalism, Alabama Polytechnic Institute (Auburn); member of the United States Department of State in Washington, and later United States minister to Albania and Thailand (Siam), writer and lecturer on political subjects."

Mr. Green states that some of the speakers at this meeting were ignorant, liars, and demagogues. Those are strong words. I fear Mr. Green would have difficulty proving them in court. Webster's Dictionary gives the definition of liar as "one addicted to falsehood." Let us examine some of th estatements of the speakers at this meeting to determine if they are falsehoods or facts.

As one of the speakers I will take the liberty of examining my own statements first. Many of these statements were repeated by Dr. Grant in a slightly different form:

1) That the federal government and the United States Supreme Court have greatly extended their powers and infringed upon the rights of the states and the rights of individuals beyond the intent and purpose of the framers of the Constitution. This process became greatly accelerated after the Civil War and reached new heights of cynical ruthlessness during the New Deal-Fair Deal era of Roosevelt and Truman and the present Eisenhower administration.

2) That the framers of the Constitution organized a federal republic and not a democracy in order to safeguard states' rights and individuals' rights.

3) That to protect states' rights and individuals' rights the framers of the United States Constitution added the Tenth Amendment which declares that "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution nor prohibited by it to the States, are RESERVED TO THE STATES RESPECTIVELY, OR TO THE PEOPLE."

4) That to further protect these rights, Article VI, section 2 of the Constitution states: "This Constitution . . . shall **be the supreme law of the land.**"

5) That the framers of the Constitution devised a system of checks and balances, and a government of LAWS and, not of MEN to prevent the tyranny of the majority.

6) That despite these Constitutional guarantees and safeguards against the tyranny of the majority over states and individuals, the present U.S. Supreme Court has disregarded the above named provisions by outlawing segregation in the public schools and other places. The Supreme Court admitted its inability to determine the question of segregation from the United States Constitution and the Fourteenth Amendment with its "due process of law" and "equal protection" clauses.

7) That the Supreme Court thereupon has recourse to the writings of radical psychologists and sociologists to arrive at their decision. These writers included K. B. Clark, then employed by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Theodore Brameld, E. Franklin Frazier, and finally Gunnar Karl Myrdal, a foreign psychologist, and author of "An American Dilemma, 1944." Of the above radical writers on psychology and sociology, Theodore Brameld and E. Franklin Frazier have been cited by the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Un-American Activities ten and eighteen times respectively as having been members of Communist and Communist-front organizations in the United States. Many of Gunnar Myrdal's associates in writing his book are members of organizations cited as subversive by the Department of Justice.

8) That the United States Supreme Court ignored the United States Constitution and set aside

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member of the Federal Board for Vocational Education; member of the Alabama State Department of Education; associate professor of political science and head of the Department of Journalism, Alabama Polytechnic Institute (Auburn); member of the United States Department of State in Washington, and later United States minister to Albania and Thailand (Siam), writer and lecturer on political subjects."

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8) That the United States Supreme Court ignored the United States Constitution and set aside the "separate but equal" doctrine in matters of race (Plessy V. Ferguson, 1896) declared by the Supreme Court several times before. That in doing so they substituted the writings of foreign and Communist-front psychologists and sociologists for the United States Constitution as the supreme law of the land.

9) That many leaders of the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) including Arthur Spingarn (white), Channing Tobias (white), Thurgood Marshall, Roy Wilkins, W. E. B. DuBois (all Negroes) and many others have been cited many times by the United States Attorney General and the U.S. House of Representatives Un-American Activities Committee as affiliated with or participating in Communist, Communist-front or other subversive organizations.

10) That the Communist Party of America and the present leaders of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People seek to abolish all legal separation of the races and repeal all laws against intermarriage of whites and Negroes.

11) That all nations that have mixed the white and the black races have declined in culture and civilization, from ancient Egypt and India to modern Cuba and Brazil.

12) That Abraham Lincoln was opposed to race mixing, and that many thoughtful Negroes and Negro leaders like the late, great Booker T. Washington and Dr. Carver of Tuskegee Institute, eminent Negro scientist whom it was my privilege to know personally, opposed the present policies of the NAACP. They believed, and many living Negroes today believe like them, that the Negro can best attain his rightful place in American life by building within the framework of his own social, cultural, and economic structure.

13) Finally, that "separate but equal" facilities for both races violates no provision of the United States Constitution or the Bill of Rights.

When Mr. Green refutes the above FACTS he will be privileged to call the White Citizens Council speakers "ignorant, lying, demagogues."

EARLE LE BARON
115 West Chase Street,
Pensacola, Florida

ESCAMBIA COUNTY WHITE CITIZENS COUNCIL FEDERATION FOR CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT.

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FROM
(FLORIDA CLIPPING SERVICE, TAMPA)
Ft. Lauderdale Daily News

FLORIDA
DATE MAR 9 - 1957

# It's Our Opinion

EDITORIALLY YOURS

## Is Florida to Become a Fertile Propaganda Field for the Kremlin?

"IF, as pointed out in the opinion of Mr. Justice Roberts, the Supreme Court of the United States recognizes that the 'dominant interest' of the state is to prevent violence, and the record here points to violence, that in itself is enough for this court to withhold the issuance of its mandate.

"The record is best fortified with what is or has been taking place in more than a half dozen states."

Thus wrote Chief Justice Glenn Terrell in a special concurring opinion yesterday as the Florida Supreme Court, by a 5-2 vote, refused to order the admission of Virgil D. Hawkins to the University of Florida law school.

As Mr. Chief Justice Terrell's words were broadcast throughout the state and nation, Americans on both sides of the Mason-Dixon line could pause to consider.

**"The record is best fortified. . . ." Terrell wrote; then, reflecting upon the troubles throughout the South since the 1954 and 1955 U. S. Supreme Court rulings, he declared:**

"It has been revealed that these riots and outbreaks were not activated by local people but by interlopers from other places, in other words, social boll weevils, fruit flies, potato bugs, bean beetles, cane borers and other pests that we institute quarantines or other rigid measures against to get rid of. . . .

"AFTER all is said, the big question is not one of defying constituted authority. It is one of finding a way of solving a serious problem recently thrust upon the states with segregated schools and at the same time preserve their traditions, their moral, social, cultural and educational standards."

This opinion came as rabble rousers were jailed in Miami for planting a cross in a Negro's yard, as Ku Klux Klan activity stirred in the northern sections of Florida, as a leading self-styled segregationist continued to trade his wares in behalf of violent opposition.

**This is not a pretty picture; it is one that leaves most good southerners ashamed. It is one also that angers them.**

But Chief Justice Terrell has stated the case admirably, and the dissenting views of Justices E. Harris Drew and Elwyn Thomas indicate a reluctance to question the actions of the nation's highest court. The Supreme Court of the United States is not sacrosanct, however, despite the efforts of many to have it sit in judgment of social problems on the right hand of God.

**As the Hawkins case was being judged again in Tallahassee, an interesting development occurred in Baton Rouge, where a committee of the Louisiana legislature has been taking testimony on the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, which has been outlawed in that state.**

Joseph Z. Kornfedder, a Detroit man who helped organize the U. S. Communist party in 1919, declared "the NAACP has cooled off on sponsoring front groups with the Communists. . . . The Communists are now trying to unite with the NAACP."

THE anguished rejoinder of Thurgood Marshall, the NAACP's special counsel, was to be expected. He issued a statement that "it is generally known that the Communists have tried desperately to infiltrate the ranks of the NAACP. It is also known they have failed miserably in these attempts."

...other assertions by Korn-

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In apparent answer to other assertions by Kornfedder, Marshall said, "We do not advertise, sell or handle any Communist literature."

However, Kornfedder had testified this way:

**"The important thing to remember is that two-thirds of all literature designed for Negroes is Communist inspired. This literature in pamphlets and books concentrates on basic ideas, which the Communists hammer away at again and again."**

It would appear from these statements that Marshall had twisted the witness' remarks.

Be that as it may, there can be little doubt that the Communists are involved in the South's racial unrest up to their necks. They are past masters at stirring up trouble, and it is quite possible that many of the mob activities that have occurred in this region since the Supreme Court ruling have hatched from Red eggs.

**There can be little doubt that racial unrest plays into the hands of the Red propagandists here and throughout the world, and we pause to wonder why some people would insist on inflaming passions if they did not have some goal in mind other than the preservation of segregation.**

The latest decision in the Hawkins case, in which the majority noted its "compelling duty" to maintain the public peace and prevent violence, could well retard the efforts of troublemakers who would—perhaps with purpose—turn Florida into a fertile propaganda field for the Kremlin.

**Richard Milne**

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FROM
(FLORIDA CLIPPING SERVICE, TAMPA)
Tampa Morning Tribune

FLORIDA
DATE FEB 25 19

# Now It's The Klan's Turn

DEEPLY disturbed and politically jittery over threats to Florida's customs of segregation, the Legislature last Summer gave unprecedented powers to a special interim investigating committee. It was publicly understood—as announced by the bill's sponsor—that the committee was to go after the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

In actuality, however, the investigators were given latitude to examine almost any organization they chose. Such power and discretion left the committee with major policy to determine—whether to look into the activities of the NAACP alone or to also delve into the doings of the Ku Klux Klan and the White Citizens Councils.

Now, with the next legislative session little more than a month away, the decision does not seem yet to have been made. Senator Dewey Johnson, of Quincy, member of the committee and author of the bill that created it, remarked last week that the investigation would probably be broadened to cover the KKK and the councils, but there has been no further indication of the committee intentions.

* * *

The question will soon be purely theoretical, with so little time remaining. The committee has done a rather thorough job on the NAACP, but nothing else. If the investigators plan to see what the White Councils are up to, or if they plan to peek under the dirty sheets of the Klan, then they had better get on with it.

Should the committee have any doubts about its authority, or whether the KKK and the councils reasonably might fall under the scope of their legislative act, such questions may quickly be dispelled.

The act authorized inquiry into the doings of any organization stirring up violations of state law, or whose acts tend to foster violence or are even "inimical to the well being of the majority."

This language opened the NAACP to inquiry, as there was reason to suspect the hand of the NAACP in violations of bus segregation laws at Tallahassee *before* the United States Supreme Court ruled against such segregation in the Alabama case. But if the act plausibly covered the NAACP, it was tailor-made to fit the Ku Klux Klan with its long history of terrorism and contempt for law and order.

Certainly the Klan in this century has been an instrument of intimidation and violence, with objectives "inimical to the well being of the majority." If the investigators need recent confirmation of the Klan's record, then they can look to Montgomery and the arrest of Klansmen there on charges of dynamiting homes and firing on buses.

The White Councils, a movement born only in this decade, are not so patently open to surveillance but some of them have earned enough disrepute already to warrant inquiry under a discretion so broad as the legislative committee's. Instances of council members fomenting disrespect for law and disturbing order are numerous, as in the activities of Birmingham's Asa Carter and Washington's John Kasper.

* * *

There is not the faintest doubt, then, about the committee's authority to investigate the Klan and the councils. Moreover, in these times the race extremists must be watched more closely than at any time since the '20s.

Even now, the committee might develop worthwhile disclosures about the activities of these organizations, especially the violence-preaching Klan. Such an inquiry would give the investigators' program a balance which is now notably lacking. But if Senator Johnson and his colleagues mean business, they had better get to work. Time is running out.

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FROM
(FLORIDA CLIPPING SERVICE, TAMPA)
Miami Daily News
FLORIDA
DATE 1957

# Laws Must Curtail Any Violent Group

A Legislative Investigating Committee, created during the 1956 special session of the state Legislature, today is winding up a three-day investigation of the NAACP in Miami.

Prior to its arrival here, the committee concluded a probe in Tallahassee concerned only with NAACP.

It is the duty of the committee to investigate *any* group whose aims are to stir up violations of the law, whether they be for or against integration. With the next meeting of the Legislature only a little over a month away, it appears that the investigators, by concentrating on the NAACP, were neglecting this duty.

The need for a probe of all groups actively engaged in the integration controversy was indicated here last weekend. On the eve of the Miami investigation, four persons were caught placing a kerosene-soaked cross on the lawn of a northwest section Negro home. Not all of these men were local residents. One was Fred Hockett, who came here only two months ago, an avid segregationist, former Ku Klux Klan member, and a ring leader in the Seaboard White Citizens Council which recently has moved its activities to Miami.

The Legislative Investigating Committee yesterday subpenaed Hockett, and condemned the anti-integration action of John F. Kasper, the council's head. This was its first action against a White pressure group.

The Legislature already has three laws on the books aimed at stopping cross - burning in Florida. Perhaps stronger laws are necessary as suggested by Sen. Johnson.

However, the laws must not be aimed at a particular group. They must be applicable to any group which engages in acts of intimidation or violence over the segregation issue. Those laws likewise must make it possible to deal harshly with outside agitators who are unwanted and unwelcome in this state.

This not only is a problem of Florida's future, but one of its present. It must be met resolutely by the 1957 Legislature to insure the continued law and order essential to our society.

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pounds thinner.

STPETE TIMES

RAPS COLLINS' COURT STATEMENT

# Odum Sees School Law Being Voided

JACKSONVILLE, (UP) — Assistant Attorney General Ralph Odum declared last night that Florida's "pupil assignment" law will be ruled unconstitutional unless some Negroes are admitted to white schools.

"Just how much integration or how rapidly it will be required by the federal courts is an unknown factor," Odum said in a speech to the Woodland Acres Parent-Teacher Association here.

At this time, he added, no Florida school board appears willing to direct admission of even one pupil to a racially-integrated school.

Attorney General Richard Ervin said in Tallahassee that he read Odum's speech before its delivery and "heartily agreed" with everything Odum said.

The "pupil assignment" law makes no mention of race, but it gives local school boards sole authority to determine which school each pupil shall attend and to take sociological and psychological factors into consideration.

Widening the rapidly-growing gap between Ervin and Gov. LeRoy Collins on segregation and other state policy matters, Odum virtually accused Collins of trying to muzzle the public right to criticize the U.S. Supreme Court.

He termed "contrary to our basic right of freedom of speech" Collins' statement in Gulfport Saturday that "we should get fighting mad" when the court as an institution and its basic powers are "raked over the coals."

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FROM
(FLORIDA CLIPPING SERVICE, TAMPA)
Tampa Daily Times
FLORIDA AUG 14 19[illegible]6
DATE

# Collins Still Has Three Bills From Session

Tallahassee, Aug. 14 (AP). Only three bills are left on Gov. LeRoy Collins' desk of the approximately 200 sent down by the special session of the legislature which went home Aug. 1.

One is the controversial measure which would set up a legislative committee with a $50,000 appropriation and subpoena powers to investigate the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The two other others are Dade County local bills.

Collins has until Aug. 21 to act upon the measures. He is expected to return Aug. 20 from the Demooratic National Convention in Chicago in time to dispose of them.

The governor hasn't said yet what he will do with the NAACP investigation bill, but there has been speculation at the statehouse that he will allow it to become law without his signature.

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FROM
(FLORIDA CLIPPING SERVICE, TAMPA)
Ft. Lauderdale Daily News

FLORIDA

DATE AUG 21 1956

# Collins Lets NAACP Probe Become Law

TALLAHASSEE. (AP) — Gov. LeRoy Collins today allowed to become law without his signature the bill setting up a legislative committee to investigate the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

In a statement announcing his action, Collins said the language of the bill was broad enough to permit an investigation also of the Ku Klux Klan and that he would refer to the committee "many inquiries I am receiving regarding the Ku Klux Klan."

**The bill passed by the recent special legislative session, gave the committee a $50,000 appropriation and subpoena powers for its investigations.**

The governor said the $50,000 was excessive but that he was confident only a small proportion of this amount actually would be spent.

"I am confident, too, that the members of the committee will recognize their responsibilities to all the people of Florida and not abuse the broad powers granted them," Collins said.

The investigation bill doesn't mention the NAACP by name, but its sponsors said that was the primary objective.

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NOT IMMUNE, SAYS MATTOX—

# *Polk Legislator Defends His Questioning Of FSU President On Segregation*

By JACK NEASE
Tribune Staff Writer

WINTER HAVEN, March 11 — State Rep. Ray Mattox today defended his recent questioning of the Florida State University president's views on racial segregation.

Mattox

In a lengthy statement, Mattox said he was "astonished" at Gov. LeRoy Collins' criticism of attempts to get answers on the subject from Dr. Robert Strozier, president of FSU.

Collins, at a recent press conference, said no one should try to draw the president of a state university into a "political hassle."

Mattox today replied: "The taxpayers of the state are supporting these institutions and, incidentally, paying Strozier's salary, and have every right to ask him or any other public official any question.

"I do not feel that a president of a state institution is sacred and immune to questioning," the Polk County legislator asserted.

He said a college president that favors racial integration "could be instrumental in hiring only those who also favor integration."

"Over a period of years . . . you could possibly have an ultimate situation where all professors would favor and work for integration," he said.

**"May Not Be Worried"**

"Our Governor may not be worried or concerned about this possibility, but I am," said Mattox.

Noting Collins' criticism, Mattox added an apparent note of sarcasm:

"Considering the issue — integration—this isn't too surprising coming from our Governor, who is such a staunch supporter and powerful advocate for continued segregation."

The hassle started when Mattox questioned Strozier's inaugural address statements that the South cannot afford to become "an island of dreams in a sea of practicality" and that "there is no 'Southern' education, no 'Southern' justice, and no 'Southern' brand of democracy."

The college president did not mention racial segregation but Mattox said these statements could be interpreted as advocating integration.

**Sent Copy of Speech**

Dr. Strozier replied by sending Mattox a copy of his speech and explaining that his aim was to show the South should take its "rightful place in the affairs of our country."

Mattox today said Strozier "could have ended this controversy immediately by simply answering my questions, which he did not do."

"Had he stated, 'No, I do not favor integration,' then no one would have been happier than I," Mattox said.

Favors Save State

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FROM
(FLORIDA CLIPPING SERVICE, TAMPA)
Miami Herald

FLORIDA
DATE FEB 18 1957

# Klan Steps Up Attack on Collins

By BERT COLLIER
Herald Staff Writer

LAKE CITY — Segregation talk is on the increase throughout this area of North Florida and some of the leaders place the blame on Gov. LeRoy Collins' inauguration address.

Collins' statement that the Supreme Court's integration mandate must be respected as the law of the land struck a sour note in this section.

It overshadowed the governor's qualification that under the state's pupil assignment law, there would be no mixed schools "in the foreseeable future."

**Collins has become the favorite target of speakers in the expanding Ku Klux Klan. At a recent public meeting near here, a hooded, but unmasked speaker, demanded that the governor abandon his "liberal" views.**

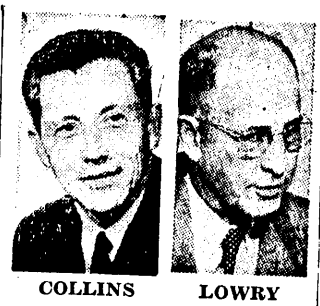
"If you (Collins) help preserve segregation in our schools, are for freedom and all the Old South traditions, then the people of Florida and the Ku Klux Klan are behind you 100 per cent," he said.

"If you are not for segregation, we will fight you.

"If it takes violence we might have to resort to it."

The speaker was identified only as "Klan Member 175,550 from somewhere in South Florida."

Klan meetings have been



COLLINS LOWRY

held in several cities and towns near here in recent days and at each there was criticism of the governor for his segregation stand.

**At a large meeting near Jacksonville, Klansmen were instructed not to wear masks, banned by state law, and not to burn crosses.**

That might lead to arrests, members were told.

There has been an increase also in activity by local chapters of White Citizens Councils in this area. At a meeting in Jacksonville, a creed was adopted pledging all-out work for segregation and refusal to ride any public conveyance, including airplanes, unless the races were separated.

This creed is recited in advance of each meeting.

In Tallahassee, where a state organization of White Citizens Councils was set up, a drive was started to purge all school libraries of "Communist and integrationist" books.

Homer T. Barrs, Tallahassee druggist who was named administrator of the state group, said he has received a list of these books from an organization in California.

**The organization wh h Gen. Sumter T. Lowry bu up during his campaign f governor last spring has re mained largely intact. Lowry carried a number of these counties.**

Lowry's entire campaign was built around the segregation issue and he asked his supporters in this area last week to keep up the fight.

Calling Collins a "weakling/

Lowry said the governor had "surrendered to the forces of integration" in his inaugural address.

"Unfortunately, in his heart, Gov. Collins does not believe in the segregation of the white and colored races." Lowry said.

"He never has and does not now have any real interest in the preservation of our constitutional rights and liberties."

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FROM
(Florida Clipping Service, Tampa)
Florida Star
Jacksonville
FLORIDA
DATE FEB 23 1957

# Legislative Ends Probe Of NAACP Will KKK, White Councils Be Next?

TALLAHASSEE — The legislative committee investigating the Florida NAACP ended its Tallahassee hearings Tuesday with an announcement it has sufficient information to slow down paid racial agitation and suppress "advocates of overthrowing established laws and customs."

The committee indicated it will sponsor legislation next April to strengthen laws against stirring up of court litigation or racial violence. It disclosed through vice chairman Dewey Johnson of Quincy that the committee "probably" will also investigate the Ku Klux Klan and white citizens councils to see "how far they have gone" in promoting violence or law violations.

**The committee has tentatively scheduled its next hearings for Feb. 25 in Miami.**

All witnesses summoned to appear here were released except for Robert Saunders, field secretary for the NAACP, and former state NAACP President Edward D. Davis of Ocala who were told to be on call for future hearings.

Attorney Mark Hawes of Tampa said Rodriguez' candid testimony made it unnecessary to question officers of the local Negro Inter-Civic Council that had been scheduled to appear Tuesday to answer questions about their part in stirring up the drive to desegregate buses here.

Sen. Johnson told newsmen after the hearing that "the committee feels that as a result of hearings to date, valuable information has been obtained that will result in a better understanding of the problem as well as a slowing down of paid agitation so that advocates of overthrowing established law and custom may be almost entirely suppressed by appropriate legislative action."

In answer to questions from Hawes, Rodriguez admitted that as special counsel for the NAACP he eithed drew or approved petitions filed with "four or five" county school boards, including Dade, Palm Beach and Hillsborough, demanding an end to segregation.

He also read the "plan of action" adopted by a regional NAACP conference in Atlanta June 4, 1955, in which the organization offered its legal department if school boards refused to integrate schools without specific legal mandates.

Rodriguez said he represented the Tallahassee Inter-Civic Council in cases growing out of the bus dispute because "the NAACP is dually interested" with the council in bus desegregation and "you cannot divorce the two."

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FROM
(FLORIDA CLIPPING SERVICE, TAMPA)
St. Petersburg Times

FLORIDA
DATE OCT 14 1956

# Social Security 'Blockade' Hit By Gilkerson

County Clerk Avery Gilkerson lashed the Democratic State Administration for "disagreement" which has "tragically blocked" 40,000 state and county employes qualifying for Social Security.

And he announced at an Eisenhower birthday party at the Detroit Hotel that the Pinellas Republican legislative delegation had pledged to sponsor three bills in 1957 to correct the situation. His St. Petersburg Republican club audience warmly applauded.

One bill will be a general state act, one will be a population act covering employes of the larger counties, and the other a local bill applicable to Pinellas. Out of the "three-barreled shotgun" should come social security for Pinellas workers, he predicted.

The 1955 Legislature passed an 88-page bill on the subject, Gilkerson said, but nobody in Tallahassee can agree on what it says.

The Attorney General has ruled the state "can and should" hold an employe election on joining the Federal social security program, Gilkerson said. Gov. LeRoy Collins' legal staff has taken the opposite view, holding the act is too vague, he added.

**SUPPORT PROGRAM**

The County Commission has agreed to support the program locally, Gilkerson said, with employer appropriations.

**State Senator J. Frank Houghton called the medfly eradication program "the biggest hoax ever perpetrated on the state of Florida." His opponent, Hubert Rutland, has endorsed it, Houghton said.**

"It's cost the state $5 million and the car owners of Florida another $5 million in car wash. It's money down a rathole." He declare he voted against the appropriation in the Legislature and also opposed the $50,000 voted to investigate the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The investigators can get all the information available from Washington "for a three cent stamp" he said.

"It's time we started saving a little money in our government," Houghton declared.

Houghton advised his audience to vote for all the Constitutional amendments on the Nov. 6 election ballot except Proposition 5 to establish the so-called 67-senator plan which would water down large county representation in the Legislature.

He said it is essential voters make up their minds on the amendments before they go to the polls.

**Voter Registrar Wilda Cook later added if a voter tried to read the amendments from the voting machine ballot he might be in the machine "an hour**

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lassee can agree on what it says.

The Attorney General has ruled the state "can and should" hold an employe election on joining the Federal social security program, Gilkerson said. Gov. LeRoy Collins' legal staff has taken the opposite view, holding the act is too vague, he added.

**SUPPORT PROGRAM**

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**Voter Registrar Wilda Cook later added if a voter tried to read the amendments from the voting machine ballot he might be in the machine "an hour or so" instead of the five minute maximum provided by law.**

**VOTING INSTRUCTION**

Miss Cook, announcing she was stepping out of her non-partisan role as registrar into a partisan role as a Republican candidate, then instructed the audience on how to vote the straight Republican ticket.

She said she wasn't concerned with getting out the vote this year — "they're raring to go" — "but our big concern is to speed up the vote."

She urged voters to study the amendments, candidates and ballot "and make up your mind how to vote accurately before you go to the polls."

**Claude Strickland, mosquito board candidate, said the Democrats have a bunch of "cotton pickers" instead of sanitary engineers working on the mosquito control program. "The entomologists have pushed the engineers out of the field," he declared.**

He pledged to have a sanitary engineer at the head of the local program on the job by Jan. 8, 1957 if the Republican slate wins. The $50 a month mosquito board pay, he said "attracted some of the worst politicians." He noted his group is pledged to seek the abolishment of the board.

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FROM (Florida Clipping Service, Tampa)
Sarasota Journal
FLORIDA
DATE MAR 8 1957

# Louisiana Starts a Probe

A Louisiana legislative committee is beginning an investigation that ought to be interesting and might bring up some startling information. It is seeking to determine what are the influences behind the racial unrest in the nation.

Racial unrest there is indeed, as there has not been in decades. It is most dreadful, and, as noted here before, is likely to get worse before it gets better.

And all of these things don't just happen. They are planned. There is the trouble in Birmingham, and in Montgomery, and in Tallahassee and in Miami and in Clinton, and in many other places.

This investigation is somewhat along the lines of one being conducted in Florida, though the Florida probe perhaps is too narrow. It seemed to be aimed primarily at the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The Louisiana investigation, on the other hand, apparently is goir much broader.

There seems to be no qu instigators are going aroun things in a carefully calcu break the laws and cus states.

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FROM
(FLORIDA CLIPPING SERVICE, TAMPA)
St. Petersburg Times

FLORIDA
DATE FEB 17 1957

# KKK Head Says NAACP Trying To Scare Cops

BROOKSVILLE — Bill Hendrix, Imperial Knight of Florida's Ku Klux Klan, last night called on the Legislature to pass an act forcing the state to defend any policeman accused of a civil rights violation.

Hendrix, Clearwater contractor, said the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is "after the police officers of the state." He said "If they can scare the policemen, that's just what they want."

Hendrix said the NAACP has "loads of money" behind it. He told about 2,000 spectators here the NAACP is "going to spread out from Tampa into all the towns on the West Coast." He added John Kasper, militant segregationist, who gained notoriety in the Clinton, Tenn., racial battles, was not able to attend last night's meeting.

Hendrix also showed reporters a letter threatening him with bodily harm for his KKK activities.

Postmarked St. Petersburg, the letter said in part: "Remember Flowers, who was shot. Well, brother, you are next." It added at another point: "Why don't you get a job instead of living off hate??

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FROM
(FLORIDA CLIPPING SERVICE, TAMPA)
Tallahassee Democrat

FLORIDA

DATE OCT 10 1956

# Capital Asks For Inquiry

The City Commission today asked the Legislature's NAACP investigation committee to investigate organizations in Tallahassee "which constitute a violation of the laws of Florida."

The letter was signed by City Manager Arvah Hopkins and said it was written "in accordance with instructions given me by the City Commission . . ." It was dated Sept. 26.

All City Commissioners could not be reached immediately for comment on the letter or what organizations they have in mind.

Commissioner W. T. Mayo said, he would be happy to meet with the interim committee—at its convience—to discuss any questions it might have.

The city's request was couched in the exact language of the law setting up the interim committee of four representatives and three senators. The law does not mention the National Association for The Advancement of Colored People by name or any other group. However, its sponsors said it was directed primarily at the NAACP.

The city's request was referred to the committee's still-to-be-selected chief counsel, with the comment from Sen. Dewey M. Johnson of Quincy that the city should be more specific and "pinpoint just what organizations it has in mind."

Many of Tallahassee's Negro residents have been boycotting buses in the city for more than four months in protest against segregated seating. The boycott is sponsored by the Inter Civic Council. The Rev. C. K. Steele is president of the council. He also is president of the Tallahassee chapter of the NAACP.

Atty. Gen. Richard Ervin recently ruled that automobiles driven in a car pool operated by the council to provide transportation for the bus boycotters are violating state law if they do not carry "For Hire" tags.

The city arrested a number of the car pool drivers on state charges, then switched the charges to violation of a city ordinance providing for licensing and regulation of for hire vehicles.

The letter to the committee from City Manager Arvah Hopkins made no reference as to either the bus boycott or the Inter Civic Council.

Steel and several other Negroes were in the chamber when the committee opened its meeting. All the Negroes left before the city's letter was read.

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FROM
(Florida Clipping Service, Tampa)
Florida Star
Jacksonville
FLORIDA
DATE FEB 23 1957

# Atty. General To Ask Law To Close Public Schools

141

## Atty. General To Seek Law To Permit Closing Of Fla. Public Schools

BY ERIC O. SIMPSON

**TALLAHASSEE — Atty. Gen. Richard Ervin joined the ranks of the Southern lawmakers who in desperation are catching straw to defeat school integration when he came up this week with two strange proposals.**

The first desperate move the veteran lawmaker made came last Tuesday when Ervin cited what he called new evidence uncovered by the Legislative NAACP Investigating Committee in a petition to reopen the Virgil Hawkins case to enter the University of Florida.

His most recent maneuver was made known Thursday when he announced that he will ask the 1957 legislature to permit residents of any locality to suspend or abolish their public schools "as a last resort" as he put it, to prevent racial violence resulting from desegregation.

Ervin fought unsuccessfully for such a measure in the 1956 special legislature, which adopted the so-called Fabisinski laws as a pattern to prevent immediate mass mixing of races in Florida.

The Fabisinski program includes the public assignment law and increased emergency powers for the Governor to suspend public services to prevent racial violence.

The pupil assignment law au-

covered evidence during its examination of Hawkins and his attorneys which affects the good faith of the Negro's attempts to gain admission to the university.

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(FLORIDA CLIP. AMPA)
Ft. Myers SS
FLORIDA FEB 24 195?
DATE

## SEGREGATION HYSTERIA

The Georgia Legislature, in all seriousness, has passed or is about to pass bills to ban Negro athletes from performing with whites, impeach the U.S. Supreme Court and repeal the equal rights amendment. But don't laugh. Antics equally ridiculous are to be apprehended from the Florida Legislature when it meets in April, judging from pre-session talk.

For one thing, there is a plan by Sen. Dewey Johnson of Quincy for legislation to suppress "advocates of overthrowing established customs and laws." Johnson is a member of the legislative committee to investigate the NAACP. He announced his plans for the legislation at the close of the committee's public hearings in Tallahassee.

Whether Johnson proposes to outlaw those who advocate overthrowing any "established customs" or just the custom of segregation is not clear. If the former, then the Republicans who have been trying to get Florida to abandon its custom of voting Democratic may have to go to jail, and merchants who advertise for customers to abandon their former buying customs and trade with them may be padlocked. But even if the ban is to be limited to those who advocate doing away with racial segregation, the proposal deserves to be laughed out of court. Is Florida to set up immigration stations at its borders and question all tourists who seek to enter as to how they stand on segregation? Would we make them sign a "loyalty pledge" promising not to write any Mailbag letters favoring integration while here?

Not quite so ridiculous but equally inadvisable is a bill for closing the public schools "as a last resort" which Attorney General Richard Ervin announces he will ask the legislature to enact. This measure would allow a county, a city or a school district to hold a referendum on the question of abolishing or abandoning any public school to prevent racial conflict. There must be plenty of authority already on the books for officals to close a school if necessary to prevent a riot; they can close a school for sanitary or safety reasons, or to let the children go to the fair, or because they want to shift the pupils elsewhere, so what do they need a special act and a referendum for? The proposal sounds like a further manifestation of some officials' itch to "do something" about segregation without minding much what it is.

At the special session of the last Legislature the "do something, do anything" school was under wraps to a large extent. The job was to pass a pupil assignment law which would stand up in court, and the more rabid segregationists were shushed down with the warning that if the same session enacted any flagrant anti-integration bills frankly aimed at evading the federal desegregation mandate, the school assignment law would be open to attack as such a measure. But at the regular session in April these wraps will be off, and the people will have to rely upon the common sense of the majority of the legislators to spare them from extremist hysteria.

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argue, and rightly be[illegible]
the other regulatory bodies, because of agencies ought to be greatly improved. [illegible]-judicial

Tampa Tribune
2-13-58

## Not Much For The Money

An interim legislative committee, now investigating Communism generally and its racial intrigue in particular, has recessed after two days of hearings at Tallahassee. So far, the sessions have been largely devoted to old charges and an intense study of the obvious.

The committee, under Chairman (Senator) Charley E. Johns of Starke, trotted out first an old Red-hunter named J. B. Mathews whose most recent claim to fame is his erstwhile employment by the late Senator Joe McCarthy in Washington. This is a dubious distinction at best, especially when we recall that he departed the Senate's employment after charging Protestant ministers with giving more support to Communists than anybody else.

The burden of his testimony at Tallahassee was that the Communists have tried to infiltrate the NAACP and to stir up racial agitation in the South. This is unquestionably true, but it is very stale news. It seems a pity to waste time and money on such information.

The committee also produced an affidavit taken earlier at Starke from Sylvia Crouch, the widow of a widely publicized ex-Communist, Paul Crouch, whose confessions stirred widespread attention something less than a decade ago. The affidavit told of Communist methods of infiltrating respectable organizations, which is hardly startling, and listed 12 Miamians whom her husband had told her were Communists about seven years ago.

Then the investigators branched off on another line and brought in under subpoena a prominent Tallahassee furniture dealer who belongs to the interracial Council of Human Relations. They took from him the records of the Tallahassee chapter, and then refused to let him make a statement from the witness chair. This denial was repugnant to the American concept of fair play.

The investigation now moves on for a session late this month at Miami. Let's hope the legislators have evidence there which is current, and which is related to Communism—otherwise, the taxpayer will begin to suspect that all he is getting for his money is a re-reading of history.

## Never Mind The G[illegible]

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St. Pete
Times
2-9-58

SEN. CHARLEY JOHNS
. .. no half truths.

# Probe Group Promises No 'Witch Hunt'

TALLAHASSEE, (AP) — Officials of the Florida Legislature's investigating committee say the group won't be hunting witches in an investigation of communism which begins here Monday.

But they add that the seven-man committee does intend to bring to the public's attention who the Communists are, what their aims in Florida are and how they operate to achieve the aims.

The hearing, which begins at 10 a.m. in the Capitol Building, will be concerned primarily with "developing the general aims, methods and means of operation adopted by the Communist Party" in Florida, the committee chairman, Sen. Charley Johns of Starke, said.

**FIRST FOR JOHNS**

This will be the first public hearing conducted by the group with Johns as chairman. A year ago the committee, then headed by former Rep. Henry Land of Orange County, probed activities of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the Seaboard White Citizens Council.

Four bills were introduced in the 1957 Legislature as a result of the racial investigation. Principally, they were aimed at tightening control over barratry — stirring up litigation — and the operation of chartered organizations. The bills failed to get through the legislature after fears arose that they were too far-reaching.

**'SAME HIGH PLANE'**

Johns said the investigations of Communistic activities would be conducted "on the same high plane" the committee operated on before. He said it would "not deal in insinuations and half truths but we will be out to get the facts."

The committee attorney, Mark Hawes of Tampa, told newsmen the inquiries would be no witch-hunt.

After the Tallahassee hearing on the general aims of Communists, a meeting will be held in Miami to fill in the details. This public hearing is scheduled for Feb. 26.

No other hearings are scheduled now but others probably will be held later.

FROM (Florida Clipping Service, Tampa)
Tampa Bulletin

FLORIDA
DATE OCT 6 1956

# WHITE NURSE FIRED FOR LUNCHING WITH NEGRO

MONTICELLO — Because she lunched with Mid-wife consultant Ethel Kirkland in a private dining room of a Madison restaurant on Aug. 22, Dr. Deborah Coggins was summarily dismissed as Jefferson County health officer. This action took place at a meeting of county commissioners here last Saturday. Cause for Dr. Coggins' dismissal was emphasized in the statement: You took darkies in there and had lunch with them".

Asked by County Commission Chairman Judge B. Shuman of Monticello if she intended to turn in her resignation, she replied: "No, sir. I don t feel I have any reason to resign. I would appreciate it if you would give me the cause."

"The only cause we heard is that you took darkies in there and had lunch with them," Shuman said.

Commissioner Norman H. Hartsfield of Aucilla said Dr. Coggins' action had lost her "the respect of the people" and made her work useless.

Dr. Coggins has said she had lunch in the private dining room of a Medi-

**Got Permission**

The physician said she obtained permission from three restaurant employes for the luncheon and entered the establishment through a rear door. Though Chairman Shuman made reference to "darkies" in the plural, Dr. Coggins has mentioned only one Negro as being present.

"Health knows no color boundaries" the slender, attractive mother of three children told the commission.

"I might point out that in Tampa where I was raised all doctors have dinner meetings together — white and colored. We have always thought there is a professional immunity. In medical groups, this is not the shocking thing it would appear to you."

**"Don't Eat With Them"**

Shuman answered: "We work with them but we don't sit down and eat with them. They eat at a different table after we eat.'

Dorothy Williams, a white Monticello housewife who attended the meeting, told the commissioners: "Times have changed. Everywhere of our children

dices it?" she asked.

"Not in a case of this kind," she was told.

**"Forced By Public Sentiment"**

Hartsfield said "public sentiment" had forced him to vote to fire Dr. Coggins and Shuman declared he was "very sorry this occurred.'

Both Dr. Coggins and her husband accepted the situation calmly. Dr. Wilmer Coggins, a native of Madison, delivered a soft-voiced statement in which he said he and his wife "feel much as our friends and neighbors do about the question of forced integration.

"We do not stand for that but we do stand for freedom of individual action. My wife has been condemned officially for an action which had nothing to do with integration.

**"Grave Injustice"**

"My wife's actions were a personal thing in her own free time. I feel that a grave injustice has been done and I further believe that in takin gthis action and refusing to write it down in the minutes of the official meeting that you gentlemen have not acted in a courageous manner."

charged because "her services are no longer useful in Jefferson County."

Just before the motion for dismissal won unanimous approval, Board Clerk Ike Anderso nreported receipt of a letter from a group he identified as "the KKK of Palatka" wholeheartedly endorsing the action taken Thursday night.

Some letters opposing the action also were mentioned.

At Tallahassee, Gov. Leroy Collins said that firing of Dr. Deborah Coggins as a county health officer because she had a business lunch with a Negro nurse "cannot be squared with right and justice and conscience."

"I am sick about it," the Governor said in a statement after reading a newspaper account of a meeting at Monticello in which commissioners of three counties she serves as health officer voted to dismiss her.

**Hadn't Planned Statement**

Collins said that originally he had not intended to comment upon the action taken to dismiss Dr. Coggins but after reading the newspaper story decided to express his sentiments.

He said:

"The action cannot be squared with right and justice and conscience and if I didn't speak up and say so, I feel that I would, by my silence, condone an evil and

**Integrationists**

"This would never have occurred two years ago — it is a by-product of the passion aroused by efforts to coerce integration of the races against the will of the people.'

Dr. Coggins said she plans to remain in Madison despite plans by the commissioner to dismiss her.

**Sought To Make Example**

A member of the Jefferson County Commission, Lester C. Lawrence of Monticello, said the feeling of the commissioners was that making an example of Dr. Coggins would help in retaining customs and traditions, and in keeping down racial tension in this North Florida area.

"It was a hard decision to make and hard to explain why we acted as we did," Lawrence said. "I don't think anything would have been thought of it five years ago but the Supreme Court ruling (in the school desegregation case) has changed a lot of things."

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FROM (Florida Clipping Service, Tampa)
Winter Haven News-Chief
FLORIDA OCT 12 1950
DATE

# News-Chief Editorials

## The Reason . . .

The reason that we can't see our way clear to support the Democratic party rests on the simple fact that the Republicans have taken over the old Democratic party platform and the Demos have taken over the old Socialist party platform.

As long as the Americans for Democratic Action, the NAACP, Reuther and Truman dictate the behind-the-scenes operation of the party we want no part of the national group. We have been led from our original ideas when we got the "New Deal" and the "Fair Deal". We lost the Democratic party to a bunch of hungry politicians.

They have led the South around by the nose and rammed things down our throats long enough. Until we get some backbone and vote against their tactics we will be suckers year after year and laughed at behind our backs.

We once had a great party. It stood for the dignity of the individual man, now it stands for big government and the treating of the individual is a shabby manner. Sometime and somehow we have to get our party back where it belongs, but as long as we follow along socialistic lines we never will.

FROM
(Florida Clipping Service, Tampa)
Southern Labor Journal
([redacted]) Tampa
FLORIDA
DATE DEC 19 1956

# Union Official Charges Citrus Employer Using Race Prejudice To Influence Plant Election

WINTER HAVEN, Dec. 18 — The Brewery Workers Union announced today it was pulling out of an election at the Snively Groves, Inc., processing plant here scheduled for January 3, charging that the plant employees had been "brain washed" with racial literature.

The withdrawal of the International Union of United Brewery, Flour, Cereal, Soft Drink and distillery Workers leaves the International Brotherhood of Teamsters still on the ballot.

The workers will now vote on the single question of union or no union. Originally they would have had to decide between the Teamsters and the Brewery Workers or no union.

Carl Saier, a representative of the Brewery Union said that a leaflet had been distributed to company employees with their pay checks last week, which gave the impression "that if the union won the election, colored people would be working along-side the white workers, and using the same toilet facilities."

Saier ridiculed the printed leaflet and pointed out that the union had nothing to do with the hiring and firing of the plant personnel. He said membership in the union would be open to any employee of the plant, but the make-up and race of the plant personnel would be entirely up to the owners.

Explaining his union's action, Saier said "After an exhaustive survey at the Snively plant we feel that the workers there aren't ready for unionizing. They've been brain washed by their employers."

He insisted that his union still planned to participate in six other elections in citrus processing plants, which are also scheduled for Jan. 3.

John A. Snively Jr., Plant Manager, admitted that leaflets were attached to 1400 employees' pay checks, but denied the charge in saying, "We're not brain washing, we're just telling them the truth in calling their attention to what's in the AFL-CIO constitution."

He said that the merger agreement between the AFL and CIO, which was consumated December, [illegible], pledged affiliated unions "to encourage all workers, without regard to race, creed, color, national origin or ancestry, to share equally in the benefits of the union."

He also charged that the AFL-CIO had given $75,000 to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and predicted that the union organizing drive at his plant would fail, saying, "Our people have too much sense to fall for that kind of stuff."

Representative David Wingate of the Teamsters Union, who are still on the ballot confirmed Saier's statement that the organization of the plant would have no bearing on the employment of Whites and Negroes. He said, "We don't tell management who to hire. It's our job to protect people who are already employed and those who are hired later. Management makes the sole decision on who it employes. If Negroes are hired at the plant, they would naturally come within the protection of the union, but that would occur only after they were hired."

Both Saier and Wingate pointed out that Snively consistently employes colored foreign labor to pick fruit in the groves.

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FROM
(FLORIDA CLIPPING SERVICE, TAMPA)
Tampa Morning Tribune
FLORIDA
DATE NOV 16 1956

# NAACP Investigation Group Says It's Met No Objection

TALLAHASSEE, Nov. 15. (By Staff Writer)—No one has filed any protest against an investigation of ~~the NAACP~~ by the special investigations committee of the state legislature.

Members of the committee and its top staff men—Attorney Mark Hawes and Investigator John Cye Cheasty — said they had received neither written nor spoken objection.

But there has been some question raised as to whether such an investigation is worth $50,000 to the state.

State Sen. Charley Johns indicated this week that he had heard some such objections, or feared some might be made. He asked Hawes if it appeared that the investigation would justify spending of that much money.

**Promises Evidence**

Hawes said it would, and that concrete evidence of this would be put before the committee on Dec. 11.

Apparently, the committee's objective is to find some pattern which would justify the group being classed as advocating disruption of the peace as a prelude to outlawing it.

The committee might go so far as to label the NAACP and some allied groups as dangerous to law and order if the investigation continues to turn up what committee members consider to be evidence of such a "pattern."

Before the committee went into a closed meeting this week, Hawes said that a "pattern" is forming, but did not attempt to detail this pattern in public.

**Says Examples Found**

But at the same time, the 31-year-old Tampa attorney said that the investigation, a month old, already has turned up specific examples of the type of incident the committee is interested in.

Rep. Henry Land of Orlando, chairman of the committee, said it is holding closed sessions to hear reports from its investigator and attorney "to prevent witch hunts."

"The great majority of people, members of this committee and the press, I know, don't want to have witch hunts," said Land.

**Fears "Big Headlines"**

If the committee held open meetings, he said, there might be unsupported charges against individuals or against groups "which would lead to big headlines."

There is a feeling in official circles in Tallahassee that if the NAACP can be kept in check in the state, there is more chance for Florida's new school placement program to go unchallenged.

There also would be less attacks on other segregation issues.

The NAACP has been the one organization which has made any widespread efforts to strike down segregation laws in the South.

In some Southern states, legislative attack already has been made on the NAACP. In Texas, the group was charged with having hired Negroes to challenge segregation laws, and an attempt is being made to close down the association because of this.

**Others Not Settled**

In Alabama and in Louisiana there have been legislative attempts to tax the NAACP out of existence, and these issues have not been settled.

Hawes and Cheasty flew to Texas this week to take a look at what that state has done in its fight against the NAACP.

Some of the information gathered there may be used in an investigation of the Virgil Hawkins case if the committee should decide to try to find out if the Daytona Beach Negro's fight to get into the University of Florida's law school was a result of action by the NAACP.

Members of the investigation committee are Land, State Sen. John Rawls of Marianna, Sen. Johns of Starke, Sen. Dewey Johnson of Quincy, Rep. W. C. (Cliff) Herrell of Miami, Rep. J. B. Hopkins of Escambia County and Rep. A. J. Musselman, Jr., of Broward County.

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FROM (FLORIDA CLIPPING SERVICE, TAMPA)
Tampa Morning Tribune
FLORIDA
DATE NOV 14 1956

# 'Pattern' In NAACP Actions In State Seen

By MARTIN WALDRON
Tribune Staff Writer

TALLAHASSEE, Nov. 13 — The special investigative committee of the state legislature was told today that a "pattern" has been found in the activities of the NAACP in Florida.

Exactly what this pattern is was not disclosed to the public.

The committee went behind closed doors to hear confidential reports from its attorney, Mark Hawes of Tampa, and its chief investigator, John Cheasty of New York.

**To Report Dec. 11**

After an afternoon session, members of the committee said that its investigations "are really rolling" and that some concrete evidence will be ready for release at a meeting on December 11.

Cheasty said he had 96 pages of reports "based on specific instances of what this committee is interested in."

Cheasty and Hawes declined to say what the reports dea with.

But State Sen. Charley Johns a member of the committee said the reports "deal with th NAACP."

Part of the information wa bought.

**Paid Two Informants**

Money spent by the commit tee so far lists $50 paid to "In formant A" and $8.50 paid t "Informant B" by Cheasty.

Apparently, information gath ered so far falls into line with the ideas of most members of the committee that the NAACP is behind much of the racial fermentation in the state.

When Senator Johns asked Hawes if the information gathered so far indicates that the $50,000 appropriated for the committee's work would be well spent, Hawes replied:

"I wouldn't be working for the committee in the first place if I didn't believe that," and said he thought "at the next meeting, we will be able to put before you concrete and specific information which would justify it."

Hawes said he and Cheasty would fly to Texas tomorrow to begin conferences with the Texas attorney general's office, which is investigating the NAACP in that state.

Hawes said general background work "is getting close to completed at this time."

He said he had done considerable research on law, and had made "specific efforts which I would not like to bring out at this time."

"I don't have much I think would be proper to take up at this time," the 31-year-old Tampa attorney said.

"We have laid the groundwork and plan for an overall picture of our investigation. We have got some people helping us."

**Partly Concern Boycott**

Hawes, who prosecuted Negroes involved in the Tallahassee bus boycott trials, said the 96 pages of reports gathered so far are partially concerned with the bus boycott.

Tallahassee Negroes refused to ride city buses after a disagreement over white and Negro seating arrangements, and the city filed suit against them for forming "illegal" car pools.

After Senator Johns said the reports deal with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Hawes acknowledged that they do.

But, he added, "work has been

he had heard comment from people to the effect that the committee already had spent the $50,000.

He said he wished the public could be told that only about $15,000 has been actually contracted for, and $1802 spent.

The money spent includes $71 for office supplies, $919 for salaries and $822 for travel expenses.

Members of the committee are Land, Johns, Sen. John Rawls of Marianna, Sen. Dewey oJhnson of Quincy, Rep. W. C. (Cliff) Herrell of Miami, Rep. J. B. Hopkins of Escambia County and Rep. A. J. Musselman, Jr., of Broward County.

All but Senator Johnson were present today.

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After Senator Johns said the reports deal with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Hawes acknowledged that they do.

But, he added, "work has been done in at least one other area and maybe others."

**Other Organizations**

"We have gathered some information here on the NAACP and one or two other organizations," Hawes said. "I don't think it will serve this committee's endeavor to be more specific than that."

Cheasty, 49-year-old New York lawyer who has more than 20 years of investigative experience, said he had to go to Washington to get briefed by Robert Morris, chief counsel of the Senate Internal Security Committee.

He said Morris had been "very helpful."

Cheasty said he also had called on the offices of Sen. Spessard L. Holland and Sen. George Smathers.

"Their offices were very cooperative," said Cheasty.

**Sought Background**

He said he was seeking background material in Washington and the two senatorial offices helped him get it.

He suggested that the committee write letters to the two senators thanking them for the assistance of their offices.

The investigator said he also had called on 80 "sources of information" in Florida and that he now has replies from them.

He asked the committee to label these replies confidential, as well as his 96 pages of reports.

This was done.

**Assistant Named**

Cheasty asked for, and got, and assistant. At its afternoon session, the investigative committee approved the hiring of Detective Sgt. R. J. Strickland of the Tallahassee Police Department to help Cheasty. Strickland will be paid $650 a month.

Strickland investigated the Tallahassee Inter Civic Council and the bus boycott.

The committee approved the purchase by Cheasty of $30( worth of electronics equipment to be used in the investigation.

Cheasty said this equipmen included several microphones a tape recorder, a tape "editor" and a transcriber.

With the use of this equip ment, Cheasty said the com mittee would "have a 'sur record of what is said at ou meetings."

The committee turned down a suggestion that it hire a clipping service to clip newspape items which might be of use to it. Hawes said he didn't think clippings would be of any benefit in the investigations.

**Paid Per Diem**

Hawes' method of pay for expenses was rearranged. The comptroller had raised some question about the legality of Hawes' being paid for his actual expenses instead of the per diem rate in effect for other state employes.

Hawes said he would prefer to be paid per diem.

The committee agreed to this after Rep. Henry Land of Orlando, committee chairman, said that the attorney general's office had ruled that money paid for information could be paid separately.

The special investigative committee was organized by the legislature during its special session this past Summer, and was given the $50,000 appropriation to carry on its work.

Senator Johns said today th

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FROM (FLORIDA CLIPPING SERVICE, TAMPA)
Florida Sun & Mirror
(Orlando)
FLORIDA
DATE OCT 18 1956

# Tampan 141 Eyed As Counsel

TALLAHASSEE — The legislative committee investigating organizations in Florida tentatively selected a chief counsel and investigator yesterday but would not reveal their names.

At the same time, the committee, designed principally to probe activities of the NAACP, received a request from the Tallahassee City Comm. to investigate the local bus boycott by Negro citizens but took no action on it.

**THERE WERE** indications that the attorney selected as counsel is Mark Hawes, Tampa, who is currently prosecuting the Negroes arrested in the bus boycott in city court here.

Hawes received a strong recommendation from Atty. Gen. Richard Ervin, who appeared before the committee, and Sens. Charley Johns and Dewey Johnson voiced approval of Hawes before the members went into executive session to deliberate the matter.

**THE COMMITTEE** agreed the counsel should be the principal man in the investigation and that the chief investigator would obtain information along the lines the counsel suggests.

At the recommendation of Sen. Johnson, the group decided it would be premature to agree to jump into the Tallahassee boycott situation until the counsel and investigator had been named and could look into the matter.

**SEVERAL NEGRO** leaders, including the Florida NAACP lawyer, Francisco Rodriguez, Tampa, the Rev. C. K. Steele, head of the Tallahassee Inter-Civic Council which is directing the boycott, and Dr. Gilbert Porter, Negro educator, attended the meeting but did not ask to be heard and left before it was over.

The committee adopted rules of procedure conforming to those of congressional committees and named Mrs. Lamar Bledsoe chief clerk of the house, as its chief clerk.

Chmn. Henry Land, announced that the two persons selected as counsel and investigator would be interviewed within the next 10 days and that the next meeting will be held Oct. 18 in Tallahassee.

**Feted Football Team**

The 12 B Class of oJnes High School, sponsored by Miss Eloise Brown feted the football team with a party on Tuesday, October 2, 1956. Tim Duhart, the captain of the Tigers and sportsman of the team, thanked the class for the very fine entertainment. Edward Proctor, president of 12 B told the team how proud they are making the school family by fighting and holding up the Orange and Green in athletic competition.

The Gospel Light Singers of Moultrie, Ga., will appear in concert Monday, October 15, 1596 at 8:30 p.m. in the Jones High School auditorium. The public is urged to come out and hear this wonderful group. Advance tickets, $1; at the door, $1.25; children's tickets $.50.

The Band Association held election of officers Thursday night at Callahan Elementary School. The group re-elected these officers to serve the 1956-1957 term:

Mr. F. W. Wilson, President
Mr. D. P. Duhart, vice pres.
Mrs. M. L. Jones, Secretary
Mrs. Julia Baker, Fiancial Sec.
Mr. Jacob Smith, Jr., treas.

The Band Association meets every first Thursday and invites all interested persons to come out to Callahan Elementary School at 8 p.m. and join its activities.

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FROM
(FLORIDA CLIPPING SERVICE, TAMPA)
Orlando Sentinel

FLORIDA FEB 4 1957
DATE

# Orlandoan Gets Helm Of Citizens Councils

141

By Sentinel Services

TALLAHASSEE — A group of 150 men and women organized a statewide chain of white citizens councils headed by a Baptist evangelist yesterday to fight racial integration, the United Nations and "the tyranny of the Supreme Court."

The Rev. George A. Downs, Orlando, editor of the pro-segregation periodical Gospel Times was named executive secretary and state organizer of the Assn. of Citizens Councils of Florida. Homer T. Barrs, Tallahassee drug company employe, was named administrator and Charles Creel, president of the Citizens Bank of Bushnell, treasurer.

**DOWNS, WHO** describes himself as an evangelistic Baptist minister, has been active in early organizational work for the state group.

The Florida group modeled its organization after the movement which started in Mississippi. It decided on three executive directors from each of the state's eight congressional districts as a statewide executive committee for which a chairman would be elected at each meeting. No dates for future meetings were set.

**THROUGHOUT THE** day the group repeatedly emphasized: "We are not against the Negro. We are for states' rights and racial integrity."

"We don't have to appeal to fanatics — they're on our side anyway because they've got no place else to go," said Robert Patterson, Indiola, Miss., executive secretary of the Citizens Councils of Mississippi.

**"WE WANT** to appeal to the good, moderate people who are undecided. The secret to the solution of the problem we face today is organization," Patterson declared during the seven-hour meeting.

Most of those who attended the meeting in the American Legion Home here were from rural North Florida although metropolitan centers as far south as St. Petersburg were represented.

**NAMED TO** the executive committee by congressional districts were:

First—Sam Peacock, Brooksville, and M. L. Foker, St. Petersburg.

Second — Herbert J. Lexon, Jacksonville.

Third — W. M. Cooper, Panama City; Mrs. J. C. Brewington, Pensacola, and Charles Atchinson, Marianna.

Fifth — Bill Joyce, Daytona Beach; H. C. King, Bushnell, and S. C. Bryant, DeLand.

Eighth — J. B. Hand, Live Oak, and former State Rep. F. W. Bedenbaugh, Lake City.

**MRS. JAMES E.** Thomas, president of the Citizens Council of St. Petersburg, told the convention she had been in frequent correspondence with Atty. Gen. Richard Ervin and Gov. LeRoy Collins regarding alleged violations of segregation laws.

"I know Mr. Ervin is for us. I hope the governor will hold," she said.

**ALTHOUGH** the group's avowed purpose was maintaining racial segregation, much of its fire was directed at the United Nations.

"Get rid of the UN and you get rid of the NAACP," said C. L. Parker, Chattahoochee.

The actual organization was conducted by only a few members in a secret meeting while other delegates alternately made speeches, prayed and sipped hot coffee and doughnuts.

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FROM
(FLORIDA CLIPPING SERVICE, TAMPA)
St. Petersburg Times

FLORIDA

DATE

# Chairman Says 'Luck' Aided Probe Committee

By BOB DELANEY
(Times Bureau)

TALLAHASSEE — Many of the documents and correspondence used by the joint legislative committee in its current investigation of the NAACP were secured by "sheer luck," according to Rep. Henry Land of Orange County, committee chairman.

Counsel Mark Hawes, of Tampa, Monday leaned heavily on reproductions of what he called correspondence between Horace Hill, Daytona Beach attorney for Virgil Hawkins, and Robert L. Carter, assistant counsel for the NAACP in New York, in trying to show that the NAACP was master minding Hawkins' fight to enter the University of Florida law school.

LAND

Hawes also sought to show that Hill was paid by the NAACP and introduced photostatic copies of several checks to Hill from the Florida NAACP legal defense fund, ranging from $10 to $250.00.

Reached by telephone at their respective offices yesterday both Carter and Hill said they had not given the legislative committee access to their files, either voluntarily or otherwise, and Hill said, "if the copies are authentic (something he refused to concede while on the witness stand Monday) and Carter didn't give them to the committee, somebody must have sneaked in my office and got them."

Asked how the reproductions were obtained, Land said, "they were secured by pure accident. It was sheer luck, kinda like finding a $20 gold piece rolling down the street."

Land said the records were "found by a committee employe, nobody walked up and gave them to us and to the best of my knowledge they are still where the committee found them."

He declined to give any further details.

Several of the letters were from Hill to Carter and Hill said he was "virtually certain" that no copies of his letters to Carter were sent to anyone else.

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FROM
(FLORIDA CLIPPING SERVICE, TAMPA)
Tampa Morning Tribune
FLORIDA
DATE NOV 16 1956

BACKS SEGREGATION LAWS—

# State PTA Opposes Move To Scrap Public Schools

ST. PETERSBURG, Nov. 15 (By Staff Writer)—The Florida Congress of Parents and Teachers yesterday voted to oppose any move to scrap the public school system if full-scale integration comes to Florida.

But the group also upheld State plans to bolster continued segregation.

In the closing day of its three-day meeting, the group turned down a motion by Mrs. Beatrice Inman of Jacksonville that the convention strike out a pledge to "vigorously oppose" any abolition of the school system in the face of integration threats. Less than one-fourth of the convention delegates supported Mrs. Inman's motion.

Shortly after that delegates turned down another move proposed by Mrs. Phyllis Ganey of Miami Beach. She asked that the convention strike out a policy-plank which urges county schools to make use of pro-segregation laws recently passed by the State Legislature. These laws are designed to slow down, if not halt, any trend toward school integration.

Loud applause greeted a remark from an unidentified Jacksonville delegate, who said, "anyone who wants to desert our Southern way of living knows where to go."

No change was made in the platform section aimed at shaping a better community through strict enforcement of protective laws and a continuing drive to build "a healthy, wholesome environment" for school children.

In another move, the convention voted to urge the State to pass uniform legislation, insuring financing of "a realistic, nutritional and adequate" school lunch program.

The convention also joined in support of "a state constitution in keeping with the demands of our times. . ." This section of the platform brought a motion asking for clarification of a report made by an FPTC constitutional advisory committee last Spring. Because of the lateness of the hour and the approaching close of the convention, this motion was voted down.

The Riverview-Gibsonton School of Hillsborough sponsored a successful change in the platform which reads: "To provide State and county support for adequate library services, with particular emphasis on rural areas."

Morning symposium speakers declared the FPTC should not limit itself to work in grammar and high schools. The speakers declared plans must be formed to take care of an estimated 160,000 students who will be seeking entrance into Florida colleges by 1960.

Another highlight of the day's activities was the

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FROM
(FLORIDA CLIPPING SERVICE, TAMPA)
Bradenton Herald

FLORIDA NOV 1 1956

DATE

## HERALD STATES 'UNTRUTH'

Editor, The Herald:

In today's Tallahassee Democrat your article (Ed.—an editorial concerning the results of the Tallahassee carpool trials in which The Herald argued that nobody had won in the case) appeared on the editorial page.

You may not agree, but to me, if our Interim Investigating Committee (four House, three Senate members) that is primarily to investigate the NAACP, finds out what so many of us have thought all along, that the NAACP is behind all the trouble the car boycott caused, I think the trial will prove successful.

I will differ greatly with you where you say "How foolish of a city to seek to force people to ride the buses." That is an untruth if I ever heard it! None of our people, our city commissioners, ever tried to force the Negroes to ride the buses. The Inter Civic Council (or NAACP, Rev. Steele is president of both) was running a transportation system. They did not have "For Hire" tags, nor did they have taxi licenses, nor collision nor liability insurance. They were wrong, not the people of Tallahassee and our leaders.

E. S. ANDERSON
822 Miccosukee Road
Tallahassee, Fla.

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FROM
(FLORIDA CLIPPING SERVICE, TAMPA)
Miami Herald

FLORIDA
DATE NOV 3 1956

ter Miami Political Roundup

# Bahlmann Hits Orr's Stand on Integration

**REPUBLICAN Theodore F. Bahlmann** charged Friday that his opponent for the Legislature Democratic **Rep. John B. Orr Jr.**, has "overlooked all other issues except his obsession for integration."

Bahlmann, in his strongest attack on Orr's pro-integration stand, said Orr apparently "is trying to sell (the public) a bill of goods which he believes himself," but which "the other 94 members of the House of Representatives and the governor (believe to be) wrong."

**Orr was the only member of the Legislature to vote for integration during the special session.**

Bahlmann also criticized Orr for speaking last week at the NAACP state convention in Tampa and not appearing before Dade County civic organizations to explain his stand.

"I want to offer assurances that if I am elected, I shall not attempt to become a hero by exercising my personal beliefs and convictions in the affairs of the public," the Republican said.

"I shall abide by that which is the majority will of the citizens."

★ ★ ★

**OTHER POLITICAL SHORTS**

on the Greater Miami scene:

A fish fry for supporters of Adlai Stevenson and Sen. Estes Kefauver, the Democratic presidential ticket, will be held today from 4:30 to 7 p.m. at 47th Ave. and W. Flagler St.

**U.S. Rep. Dante Fascell** of Miami will be guest speaker. The rally is open to the public and fish will be served free.

★ ★ ★

**GOERGE BRUMLIK**, Republican candidate opposing Democrat **Charles (Chuck) Hall** for the County Commission, appealed Friday for the voters to recognize the advantages of a two-party system in government.

He asked for support as a means of giving the GOP its first seat on the Dade County Commission.

★ ★ ★

**LELAND HYZER**, GOP candidate for Congress, said Friday that his opponent, incumbent **Rep. Fascell**, voted against the Eisenhower administration proposals in Congress 71 per cent of the time.

He said that re-election of **Fascell** would mean a continuation of these "delaying" tactics in the program of the President.

**Hyzer** promised that if elected, he will support the Eisenhower program all the way.

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FROM
(Florida Clipping Service, Tampa)
Citrus County Chronicle
(Inverness)
FLORIDA MAR 14 1957
DATE

# Kasper Danced With Negroes In New York But He Stirred Racial Hatred In Rally Here

## KKK BROUGHT HIM HERE; HENDRIX IS BACKING HIM YET

John Kasper, who ranted against integration of the races in a speech at a Ku Klux Klan rally near Inverness Saturday night, admitted Monday that he had danced with Negro girls at mixed parties in New York City.

He told a legislative committee in Tallahassee that Negroes were his "closest friends" at a time when he was operating a bookstore in New York's Greenwich Village.

Under questioning, Kasper, now 27, said he mingled with them "socially and without distinction." He hedged and sparred, according to the Associated Press, before admitting to Mark Hawes, committee counsel, that he attended mixed parties.

**Dances The Shango**

One of the dances in which he participated with Negro girls was the shango, a tribal dance. That was before he left the North to agitate the South's already troubled race relations.

He said he had several Negro friends and sometimes partied to the wee hours of the morning with Negroes.

Kasper said he had danced with Florette Henry, a Negro girl employed in his book store.

Kasper said his acquaintance with the girl continued for several years, and that he once took her on the train to Washington to see Ezra Pound, the poet.

**A Fine Girl**

He said he sent her a Christmas card from Tennessee last December and that he still thinks "she is a fine girl."

Bill Hendrix of Clearwater, official of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, and one of Kasper's sponsors in Florida, was asked what he thought of the testimony.

At first he said Kasper had been smeared but yesterday he complimented the committee and said "they brought out nothing about Kasper I didn't already know."

**They're Still Buddies**

At one time reporters believed Hendrix was breaking with Kasper, but they were together Tuesday night and Wednesday in Tallahassee and then set out together for Hendrix' home

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**They're Still Buddies**

At one time reporters believed Hendrix was breaking with Kasper, but they were together Tuesday night and Wednesday in Tallahassee and then set out together for Hendrix' home in Oldsmar.

Hendrix said he had never turned against Kasper.

Fred B. Hackett, Miami carpenter, who helped Kasper found the Seaboard White Citizens Council of Washington, D. C., renounced all connection with Kasper and the organization.

Kasper has been sentenced to a year in prison for contempt of court during his anti-integration activities in Clinton, Tenn., but is free on $10,000 bond pending appeal.

**KKK Meets Here**

The Legislative committee is investigating the National Association for the Advancement of Colored people and white supremacy groups.

Kasper, a tall, broad shouldered man, was born in Camden, N. J.,, went to school there and later attended high school in Philadelphia, Pa. He is a graduate of the Columbia University School of General Studies.

He was the chief speaker at the KKK rally in Crawford Bellamy's cow pasture near Cooper Lake south of Inverness Saturday night. Crosses burned to right and left of the platform.

And throughout most of the long speech four hooded men, presumably officers of the KKK, stood flanking the platform, two at either end. Kasper denounced Negroes as inferior

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And throughout most of the long speech four hooded men, presumably officers of the KKK, stood flanking the platform, two at either end. Kasper denounced Negroes as inferior citizens but reserved his strongest language for Jews.

He made insinuations about President Eisenhower's ancestry, called him a "nigger-lover," assailed Vice-President Nixon because of the latter's visit to Africa and derided the President's advisors and the U. S. Supreme Court.

Of Gov. LeRoy Collins, Kasper said, "He is trying to outnigger Frank Clements (governor of Tennessee) and if he does we want to see that he gets what Clements got — total repudiation."

He advocated a legislative program that would not allow citizens to vote in Florida unless they have lived five years in the state, four in the county and three in the precinct. On the subject, he said we [illegible] to control Dade county Jews "who keep moving back and forth."

He also had something to say about Parent-Teacher Associations. The Inverness PTA opposed his appearance in this area.

**Says PTA Captured**

"The PTA," said Kasper, "has been captured because we have not been there." He said the PTA and the Boy Scouts "are telling you to accept world brotherhood and forget our own glory."

Kasper was introduced by Bill Hendrix, who claims to head the KKK in Florida. Hendrix seemed to think that the Chronicle had misrepresented the action taken by the Inverness PTA prior to Kasper's appearance here.

On March 5 at a meeting of City Council, Mayor Doug Stephens read this letter:

"Attention Mayor Stephens and City Council Members,

"Dear Sirs:

"It has been requested that the following, taken from the minutes of the March 4, 1957 PTA meeting, be read before your meeting Tuesday evening:

"Majority of members present wish to go on record as being strongly against Mr. John Kasper, segregationist, speaking in Inverness on Saturday, March 9, 1957.

"Respectfully yours,
(Signed) "Mrs. Kenneth Corbin,
"Secretary, Inverness PTA."

There were between 75 and 100 cars at the KKK meeting. Most of the people stayed in their cars, but a good many stood in a semi-circle in front of the speaker's stand. A reporter's check indicated that most of the cars were from out of the county.

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FROM
(FLORIDA CLIPPING SERVICE, TAMPA)
St. Petersburg Independent
FLORIDA
DATE OCT 1 0 1956

# Take Note

Those of us who have little respect for a mob have less respect for the two high C's (Clements and Chandler) who made the Garand rifle, with fixed bayonet, the symbol of brotherly love. The encouraging words of Davis Lee, in your recent guest editorial, is by far more palatable. Coming from a Negro newspaper, "You Can't Eat Integration," the words of that writer should daub a sobering tint to the rapidly deteriorating racial picture.

The Negro is entitled to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness and equal protection under the law. This does not give him a license to invade my fraternity or my social circle. Likewise, he is entitled to an individual home and an abundance of breathing space, because, the laws of procreation will not be denied. By the same token, he should have ample recreational areas and a usable, sanitary bathing beach—problems that border on criminal negligence locally for which we are all to blame. Lastly, he is entitled to the best job and the best profession into which his brains and hands will lead him.

Court decrees will not substitute for common sense and reason. Brotherly love, shielding suspicions and harboring political aspirations, is a dangerous thing. Because, the loudest proclaimers of the brotherhood of man are the very people who would knock down the doors to American security and immigration and flood this land with competitors to jobs to which the American Negro is justly entitled. However, if the Negro is incapable of discerning the nefarious schemes of the top, white skinned planners of the NAACP, he will awaken some fine morning to find that he has voted himself right back into abominable slavery.

In conclusion, the American Negro has come a long way in less than 300 years. He is far out in front of his distant cousins in other lands. Yet, if he is not to stall and stagnate in his efforts to climb the ladder to a better, future life upon this continent, it will pay him to take note of men like Davis Lee. Certainly, he is entitled to better than the shambled shacks of the South and the dirty, pest infested rat holes of the North (so are all races). However, to rise above them, he can ill afford to continue to alienate his best friends by holding consort with his worst enemies.

CLAUDE STRICKLAND

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FROM
(FLORIDA CLIPPING SERVICE, TAMPA)
Miami Life
(Miami Beach)
FLORIDA
DATE OCT 6 1956

# Beach Book Gives Plan To End Black Babies

BOOK review for adults only. It deals with a paper cover publication by Will Bryan and printed by The Freedom Company, Inc., Miami Beach, entitled "No More Black Babies."

**First it is a fantastic and disagreable story about the formation of a small group in Washington, D. C. to launch a movement to bring about the sexual relations between whites and blacks, so the results will be half breeds, children of mixed color. Negroes are to seduce white woman and bed them in hotel rooms, while Negro women are to be given bonuses if they manage to have children by white daddies; artificial insemination, etc.**

But aside from this revolting proposal certain principles or aims are outlined which would undoubtedly meet the approval of the NAACP and the integrationists. This program includes encouraging sex promiscuity by mutual consent between the races, especially among school children. Working to bring about mixed schools, particularly in the lower grades. (This is being done now.) Endeavoring to have newspapers publish as many pictures of mixed groups as possible (See Herald front page) and striving to have mixed casts in theatrical and television shows; also planning amateur shows with white and colored people in the casts. Soliciting the cooperation of white preachers to work with colored groups in every possible way. (See Life magazine.) Encouraging colored girls to become trained nurses and colored boys and girls to become doctors. The use of liquors and drugs when expedient. Influencing more colored young men to qualify for police officers, as well as all civil service positions. And for final plank. That the word Negro be eliminated from our vocabularies. It is to be the Colored race.

Many of these suggestions are now being carried out

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FROM
(FLORIDA CLIPPING SERVICE, TAMPA)
Orlando Sentinel

FLORIDA
DATE OCT 11 1956

# Tampan Eyed As Counsel

177 By JIM HARDEE
Sentinel Tallahassee Bureau

TALLAHASSEE — The legislative committee investigating organizations in Florida tentatively selected a chief counsel and investigator yesterday but would not reveal their names.

At the same time, the committee, designed principally to probe activities of the NAACP, received a request from the Tallahassee City Comm. to investigate the local bus boycott by Negro citizens but took no action on it.

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2-11-58

# Race Strife Blamed On U. S. Reds

## Florida Legislative Committee Told Agitation Is Goal Of Communist Party In South

By MARTIN WALDRON
Tribune Staff Writer

TALLAHASSEE, Feb. 10. — Pink-faced J. B. Matthews, 63, a professional Communist "researcher," told a committee of the Florida Legislature today that stirring up racial agitation in the South was a prime purpose of the Communist Party in the United States.

Matthews said this is indicated clearly in his million-dollar library of Communist literature.

The witness, first to give testimony in the legislature's investigation of Communism in Florida, said the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has been successfully infiltrated by Communist agents.

Of 236 people listed as national officers of the NAACP, 145 "have records of affiliation with Communist organizations," Matthews testified.

This was not to say, Matthews

(Continued on Page 11, Col. 3)

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...Shipyards parade.—(Tribune Photo).

2-11-58 Cont from pg 1

# Race Strife In South Said The Prime Goal Of Reds

(Continued from Page 1)

went on, that these individuals were Communists.

These "Communist organizations" mentioned by him are mostly Communist front groups, he said.

Many people who join Communist front organizations are "dupes," he said, "and others like to see their names in print on letterheads."

**Some Believe in Aims**

Others believe in some of the aims of the party such as peace and civil liberties.

Matthews added that the Communist Party seeks to stir up racial discord through "front" organizations as part of its effort to overthrow the American government.

If integration of the races ever is achieved, Communists will drop the race relations field, he predicted.

Matthews, now a New Yorker, was former research director for the House Committee on Un-American Activities headed by Rep. Martin Dies of Texas in the early 1940's.

For about a month in 1953, Matthews was executive director of the U. S. Senate Subcommittee on investigations under the late Sen. Joe McCarthy of Wisconsin.

Matthews was fired from that job after a furor over his charge that Protestant preachers were giving more support to the Communist apparatus than any other group.

He listed this job as one of qualifications as an expert in his testimony today.

Today's hearing lasted less than two hours, being adjourned abruptly at noon after Matthews had outlined in general what he conceived to be the aim of the American Communist Party.

This is, he said, overthrow of the U. S. Government by force and violence.

Committee Counsel Mark Hawes said Matthews may be called again tomorrow, but said if he is, it will be for only a few questions.

After Matthews quits the stand, the committee will undertake an examination of the Florida Council for Human Relations and its Tallahassee branch.

**Johns Cites Aims**

In a special statement read at the opening of today's hearing, Sen. Charley E. Johns of Starke said the committee did not desire to "injure, harass or unnecessarily embarrass any individual or organization."

"It is, however, the plain duty and firm intention of this committee to develop facts, within its possession, concerning subversion in this state," Johns went on.

"This subversion has its roots outside this state and even outside this country. It will, therefore, be necessary in order to to lay the local activities of certain persons and organizations in their proper perspective that we develop generally the national background of the Communistic conspiracy and the national makeup and direction of certain other organizations.

"This hearing will develop this phase of the evidence as briefly and quickly as possible.

**Specific Activities**

"Subsequent hearings, including the one in Miami, on Feb. 26, will deal specifically with the activities of people and organizations in this state, which actions are designed to carry out the purposes of the Communist Party.

"We shall attempt to determine the decree of influence that the Communist Party has succeeded in exerting on the actions of individuals and organizations presently active in Florida in the field of race relations as well as other fields of great public importance and interest.

"We are extremely fortunate to have as our first witness in this opening hearing the man whom this committee firmly believes to be the leading authority on the subject of Communism in this country.

"We believe his qualifications and most extensive knowledge of the subject matter under inquiry will become readily apparent to those who hear his testimony.

"The committee does not intend by insinuation or inference to assert that every person named in the testimony in these proceedings or every person who is subpoenaed as a witness in these proceedings are Communists or Communistically inclined.

"We ask that no conclusions be drawn against any person so named or so subpoenaed until the full facts are finally developed, and that opinions be formed concerning all persons named and subpoenaed only after the full evidence has been finally developed and disseminated.

"It will be the policy of this committee to permit any person named as a Communist by any witness before this committee to appear as a witness and to

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"It will be the policy of this committee to permit any person named as a Communist by any witness before this committee to appear as a witness and to produce any evidence in his possession to refute such accusation if he can do so."

**Few Named**

Only three or four persons were listed as Communists in today's testimony, none of them from Florida.

Matthews said one Loren Miller of California, whom he said was listed on the literature of the NAACP as a national officer, was a Communist Party member.

Others he listed were the late Paul Crouch of New Orleans, and James E. Jackson, who he said was main representative of the Communist Party in the South.

Jackson's address was not given.

One organization which apparently will crop up when the committee takes its hearing to Miami later this month, is the Southern Conference Education fund.

Matthews said this is the same organization as the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, which was organized in 1938 in Birmingham, and later moved to New Orleans.

The conference was Communistic originally, Matthews said, and has the same offices, same address and so on as before.

Matthews read a list of 46 officials of the NAACP whom he said belonged to 15 or more Communistic front organizations.

These included such names as that of Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, Archibald MacLeish, poet and former librarian of Congress, and others similarly situated.

FROM
(FLORIDA CLIPPING SERVICE. TAMPA)
Florida Star
(Jackson ville)
FLORIDA
DATE OCT 1 3 1956

# FLORIDA NAACP FACING STATE INVESTIGATION

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FROM
(Florida Clipping Service, Tampa)
Winter Haven News-Chief

FLORIDA
DATE OCT 5 1956

# ws-Chief Editorials

## AACP . . .

NAACP has been about the most ill-advised move-
at we have seen in years. Whether it is that those
o run it are playing it by ear, or are ignorant, we
iow.

far it has gained nothing but scorn for the colored
nd in our opinion the time will come when those
ould normally have gone along with a lot of things
betterment of that race, will fight their every move.
ie NAACP apparently has some idea that it is above
v. They haven't stopped to think out the future. They
rogant in their approach, which no one likes in any
To our way of looking at it, they have set the colored
back about a decade. There is a right way and a
r way to do any thing and so far those operating this
am have done it the wrong way.

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FROM
(Florida Clipping Service, Tampa)
Tallahassee Democrat
FLORIDA
DATE OCT 14 1956

# No Help Needed

Tallahassee City officials have asked a legislative investigation committee which is aiming its fire at the NAACP to look into affairs of organizations here "which constitute a violation of the laws of Florida."

The cryptic request names no names and gives no facts about law violations to direct the committee into its inquiry, but apparently the object would be the organizations behind the bus boycott.

We're sorry the City officers did it.

In the first place, we doubt that any investigation by the committee of legislators will accomplish much. We opposed creation of the committee as a needless waste of $50,000 in public funds that can only intensify bad feelings between the races and give the NAACP another talking point in the campaign to finance its reckless work.

In the second place, we think the situation in Tallahassee—irksome and distasteful as it is—is one we can best handle right here among ourselves and we don't need any help from out-of-county gle incident of violence or threatened violence by either race. There have been accusations of only two classes of law violation:

1. A series of minor traffic charges. They were handled by City court in routine fashion.

2. The broader charge that the bus boycotters are operating a commercial transportation system without a City Commission permit in violation of ordinance.

This case, after some stumbling starts by both prosecution and defense, now has settled down to basic legal issues with competent attorneys on both sides taking it through the orderly processes of democratic American litigation.

That's the way it ought to be.

If there are illegal organizations operating here (or legal organizations violating any laws) we have the grand juries and prosecutors to accuse them, a free choice of lawyers to defend them, good judges to try them and fair appeal courts to sit in review.

A legislative investigating committee is a poor shortcut to justice or settlement of

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FROM
(FLORIDA CLIPPING SERVICE, TAMPA)
Brooksville Journal

FLORIDA
DATE OCT 11 1956

# Cracker Crumbs

*About This 'n That*

**Oh No!**

Oh No! Not again! MEN! It's gonna be the same old story! Women's hair is to be cut shorter again this year!

Yep, sorry as we are to see it, we read the other day that the fashion experts have decreed (they're as bad as the U. S. Supreme Court) that women's hair will again be cut short this season — BUT, ladies, it's not only going to be cut short — but SHORTER! Yep, that's what the experts say!

Well, we lived through the poodle cut, the Ulysees cut, the "Weeping Willow" cut, and a few others! Guess we'll just close our eyes and drag through another season.

BUT, confidentially, what has got us worried is this: You know all this business about evolution and such? Well, if women keep cutting their hair shorter and shorter each year, doesn't it stand to reason that soon we'll have envolved a race of "BALD HEADED" women?

Think about that a little bit, girls! Ugh! What a horrible thought!

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**Dr. Coggins.**

Much has been said pro and con concerning the firing of Florida's only Public Health Doctor, Deborah Coggins, by three North Florida counties, brought about because of her breach of segregation principles.

We feel the firing was justified because Southerners must remember — just one little crack in the dam, and the whole thing goes! Tolerate no breach of tried and true Southern segregation practices —and we'll have no troubles!

---

**Hurrah For Ruark!**

We don't know how many of you read the "stuff" of that hilarious columnist, Robert Ruark, each day in the daily scandal sheets. We do —and we got a big kick out of his declaration that he has yet to see or hear Elvis Presley or Liberace on either the radio or television!

Now that's a man after our own heart! How he managed to do it is beyond our comprehension — but we'll wager that if he offered his secret to any of the millions who have suffered at the radio or T.V., or both — he'd go down in the annals of history as the world's greatest humanitarian!

---

**Not So Bad!**

Have you ever stopped to think: Today is the tomorrow that you worried about yesterday???

---

**We Quote:**

We got quite a kick out of the following notable quotes that we ran across the other day:

"I do most of my work sitting down; that's where I shine." —Benchley.

"There is a great difference between a young man looking for a situation and one looking for work." —Shaw.

"Work is the greatest thing in the world, so we should always save some of it for tomorrow." —Harold.

"Work consists of whatever a body is obliged to do, and play consists of whatever a body is not obliged to do." —Clemens.

" go on working for the same reason that a hen goes on laying eggs." —Menken.

---

**Honeymoon Over?**

We heard tell of the newly wed couple the other day who decided when the

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**Honeymoon Over?**

We heard tell of the newly wed couple the other day who decided the honeymoon was over when the husband said one morning: "Who spilled the mustard on this waffle, dear?"

"Oh Henry! How could you? This is lemon pie!"

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**Great Pride.**

Talk about modern-day kids, this is said to have really happened: A father was telling one of his friends the other day: "I just don't know what to do with my son. He's so conceited that on his last birthday he sent a telegram of congratulations to his mother!"

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**Modern Student.**

A student at the Univ. of Florida the other day was talking to his professor, and said: "Sir, I'm indebted to you for all I know."

To which the professor replied: "Oh, don't mention such a mere trifle."

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**Finished???**

And then there was the irate and harassed father, who, when looking over the bills from his daughter's schooling, thundered: "This finishing school we're sending her to —— just who is it supposed to finish???"

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**Too Good!**

Did YOU read about the state NAACP official from Tampa who thought he was TOO GOOD to be arrested like any other citizen who was violating the law? Just another case of the arrogance and intolerable attitude of that communist-backed organization that is using the negro as its tool!

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FROM
(Florida Clipping Service, Tampa)
Gainesville Sun

FLORIDA
DATE FEB 19 1957

# New facts in Hawkins case--Ervin

TALLAHASSEE (AP) —Atty. Gen. Richard Ervin today asked the Supreme Court to take additional testimony in the Virgil Hawkins case because of new evidence uncovered by the Legislative NACCP Investigating Committee.

Hawkins is a 47-year-old Daytona Beach Negro who has been attempting for eight years to gain entrance to the law school at the all white University of Florida.

The Supreme Court has said he may enter the law school but has not yet ruled on when he actually may be admitted.

**Affects 'Good Faith'**

Ervin said the NAACP Committee, which has questioned Hawkins and his attorney at length, has discovered evidence affecting the good faith of the Negro's attempts to gain admission to the University.

The attorney general asked the court to appoint a commissioner to take testimony from Hawkins, the State Board of Control "and such other witnesses as either party may produce relative to matters previously unknown to (the Board of Control) and recently discovered evidence affecting the bona fides of this cause."

**Legal Costs**

The Legislative Committee attempted to prove the litigation aimed at getting Hawkins into the University was directed and financed by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Hawkins' attorney, Horace Hill of Daytona Beach, testified he had billed the NAACP for his fees and had received payments from the organization's legal defense fund.

However, he denied that NAACP lawyers in New York took full control of the case when it went to the U.S. Supreme Court.

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FROM
(FLORIDA CLIPPING SERVICE, TAMPA)
Orlando Sentinel

FLORIDA

DATE MAR 1 - 1957

## Wasting Money

Editor: This indeed is the farce of the year. A Florida legislative committee down in Miami investigating the NAACP for "barratry," "attempting to incite violence," etc., while members of white Citizens Councils and the KKK attempt to drive a Negro citizen out of his own home.

It will be interesting to see how many other foolish ways the next session of the state legislature will think of to waste taxpayers' money.

Sanford

F. A. SMITH, M. D.

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FROM
(Florida Clipping Service, Tampa)
Winter Haven News-Chief
FLORIDA
DATE SEP 2 0 1954

## Wouldn't Listen . . .

Just after the decision of the Supreme Court on integration, we along with other Southern editors spelled out carefully the facts of the situation and said then that patience would cure the ills. Those wanting to push integration, mostly NAACP members along with trouble-stirring commies, began pushing.

Most of us realize that there will have to be a change, but again it will have to be gradual. The people in Washington went all out for a quick change—they now feel that it was all too hasty and that neither side was ready.

Now, the same groups are trying to push through some rather rough civil rights bills that will do more harm than good at this time. Let's take this whole thing slower and when we do the job let's have harmony, not factional fights.

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FROM
(FLORIDA CLIPPING SERVICE, TAMPA)
Chronicle
(Jacksonville)
FLORIDA
DATE Jan 1 - 1957

**The United States District Court at Tallahasse has issued an injunction restraining the Tallahassee City Commission from interfering with negroes riding the buses upon a non-segregated basis.**

We are thus face to face in Florida as they are in many states with the fundamental issue of States' Rights.

**Judge Dozier DeVane could hardly be expected to do otherwise than follow the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States. This is true, although that decision was clearly invalid and unconstitutional.**

Few lay people can fully grasp the dual sovereignty theory upon which the government of the United States and the States were formed.

**The Federal Courts are supreme within the limited sphere of federal power and the state courts are supreme within their sphere, which is much more extensive.**

All courts are bound [illegible] cendent and have no [illegible] reverse their former [illegible] This is up to the [illegible] authorities.

**From the beginning** [illegible] **nation the Supreme Court of the United States had held that the matter of segregation of the races was within control of the states and the federal government had no power to regulate it except in interstate commerce.**

---

Upon that black Monday in October the nine old radicals in their black robes threw all their former decisions in the ash can and took as authority the Communistic writings of Europe and brushed aside law, reason, and precedent. These nine old radicals decreed chaos and confusion. They destroyed the Constitution and decreed chaos and the abolition of dual sovereignty.

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**During the campaign for Governor in the primary between Governor LeRoy Collins and Sumter Lowry, it was asserted by the Lowry followers that the only effective way to maintain segregation was for the Governor and Legislature to invoke interposition.**

This meant, of course, the interposition of state sovereignty against the false claim of federal jurisdiction over the racial segregation question.

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**General Lowry repeatedly asserted that this was the only way to maintain segregation in Florida. Governor Collins said this was all bosh and that he would maintain segregation apparently by a wave of the magic Collins wand. The negroes are riding the buses in the capitol of Florida. The negroes are riding the buses on the very streets which Collins travels to go to his office. Segregation in the constitution and laws of Florida is being defied and flaunted by the NAACP and Urban League.**

---

Governor Collins adjourned the last session of the legislature by executive fiat in violation of all precedent to keep it from passing an interposition act.

**Today Governor Collins lacking both the will and courage to invoke the interposition of state sovereignty against the unlawful and unconstitutional decision of the United States Supreme Court sees the sovereignty of Florida flaunted in its own capital.**

now.

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**Richard Ervin, Attorney General of Florida, ought to begin legal action now to cancel the corporate charters of the NAACP and the Urban League upon the ground of their illegal and unlawful maintenance of litigation.**

They have no right to solicit

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**Today Governor Collins lacking both the will and courage to invoke the interposition of state sovereignty against the unlawful and unconstitutional decision of the United States Supreme Court sees the sovereignty of Florida flaunted in its own capital.**

Interposition of the Sovereignty of Florida can no longer be delayed and surely LeRoy Collins must clearly see that situation today. Collins must rise to the stature of a real Governor or admit that he has just been pretending to be for segregation.

The City Commission of Tallahassee is standing up like men. They are willing to uphold the Constitution and Laws of Florida, but Governor Collins is shirking his duty. There is no need for him to play politics now.

**Richard Ervin, Attorney General of Florida, ought to begin legal action now to cancel the corporate charters of the NAACP and the Urban League upon the ground of their illegal and unlawful maintenance of litigation.**

They have no right to solicit contributions. They are not charitable organizations. They are political organizations. They are paying negroes to violate the Constitution and laws of Florida.

**The time has come when the United States District Courts must be told by the Governor of Florida that this sovereign state has interposed its sovereignty against the unlawful assumption of jurisdiction by the Supreme Court of the United States. Until the State of Florida does this, the District Courts must follow the decision made by the United States Supreme Court.**

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FROM
(FLORIDA CLIPPING SERVICE, TAMPA)
Miami Herald

FLORIDA FEB 20 1957
DATE

# be of NAACP Completed

LLAHASSEE—The legislative investigating committee investigating the Florida NAACP ended its Tallahassee hearings and announced it has sufficient information to slow down paid racial agitation and suppress "advocates of overthrowing established laws and customs."

The probers indicated they would offer new legislation at the April session and said they might investigate the Ku Klux Klan and White Citizens Council next.

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FROM
(FLORIDA CLIPPING SERVICE, TAMPA)
Zephyrhills News
FLORIDA
DATE DEC 7 195[illegible]

# *Deputy Asks Fight for Segregation*

Bob Bryant, Dade City, deputy tax assessor for Pasco County, was principal speaker at the Rotary Club's weekly luncheon at the Cottage Thursday. He used as his subject the segregation issue.

The speaker said white citizens of Florida are not taking appropriate action to maintain segregation within the state. He gave information on the all-out effort being expended by the NAACP to bring about total integration.

Bryant said, "While I do not have the answer to the problem, it is my belief white people should be alerted to the situation and plan a concerted course of action."

Information was given local Rotarians that the Zephyrhills Rotary Club placed 10th in attendance out of 47 clubs in District 244 for October, with an average attendance percentage of 94.15. The Dade City Club ranked 11th and Clearwater Beach won top honors.

Since July the local club has had two meetings at which 100 percent attendance was recorded.

Guests at the luncheon meeting included James E. McGinnis, Bedford, Ind., father of James E. McGinnis; Lou Herrmann, Ed Steinmeyer and Jack Nichols, all of Dade City.

Nichols, as president of the Dade City Rotary Club, invited the local group's attendance at a holiday event at the Armory, when the Dade Citians will sponsor Billy Mays and his Orchestra.

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FROM (FLORIDA CLIPPING SERVICE, TAMPA)
Miami Herald
FLORIDA FEB 3 - 1957
DATE

AM 1471

## In the State

**AGENTS FOR** the legislative committee that was created to probe activities of the NAACP are reported to be secretly investigating charges that some white students at Florida State University were hired to take leading roles in anti-segregation demonstrations.

★ ★ ★

**DEVELOPMENT** of a swank North Florida resort on St. George's Island in the Gulf of Mexico hinges on developers' efforts to persuade the State Road Board to build a 4½-mile $6,500,000 road from the mainland in Franklin County to the island.

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FROM (FLORIDA CLIPPING SERVICE, TAMPA)
Brooksville Journal
FLORIDA JAN 24 1957
DATE

# Cracker Crumbs

## About This 'n That

**The Life.**

We got quite a kick out of a cartoon in Sunday's paper. It showed two seedy looking hobos lolling in the shade and taking life easy. One said to the other: "Yes sir, folks are finally coming around to our philosophy of living. Everybody is wanting shorter hours, less work, longer weekends, more holidays, and more and less!"

And this seems to be so true! What has happened to the old American philosophy of "An honest days work for an honest dollar?"

**In Again.**

Well, Ike and Nixon are in again! And just think, it only took a $1,000,000 to put on the simple "swearing in" ceremony and the shin-digs that went with it! Talk about economy in government—we ain't got it!

**Inflation.**

Someone the other day set forth this definition of inflation: It's when nobody has enough money, because everybody has too much!

**That Sales Tax.**

We've always said that once a tax is put on, it's never lowered or removed. Take the case of the State Sales Tax, for instance. We never hear a murmer about lowering the already high three percent levy. It's always up and up—no talk of down and down! Now we find that the legislators are starting to beat the drums for an increase in the tax to 4 percent—or four cents on every dollar! MAN! By the time the federal government takes its 22 or more percent, the state its four percent, and we pay all the other so-called "hidden" taxes such as luxury taxes, excise taxes, etc., just how much of that 100 cents is left for the poor guy who sweats to earn it? Not much!

**The Modern Way.**

A college senior dated a young lady from a nearby girls' school a few times. Then some weeks passed, and when she hadn't heard from him she sent a telegram reading: "Dead, delayed, or disinterested?"

Back came the prompt reply: "Hunting, fishing, or trapping?"

**The Tallahassee Situation.**

Several years back we wrote about the "Tallahassee odor" — referring to the rotten politcal situation up in the state's capital city.

Now it seems that odor has turned into a real stink — with the fight to integrate buses highlighting the picture — and "kid-gloves" Collins trying to play the middle of the road right down the line. This week three "renegade" white FSU students teamed up with three negro students to force their arrest and bring the new seating assignment law to a court test. The three negroes—and especially the three whites—should be given the full penalty under the law!

Maybe the handwriting on the wall isn't too clear yet to some of these boys who think they "know it all." Maybe they haven't heard that the Klu Klux Klan has vowed force, if necessary, to stop this insiduous cancer that is eating at the heart of the South's traditions—all being pushed by "dearly beloved" Ike Eisenhower!

We don't advocate violence, but we think some of these students and others had better think twice before they step into the explosive situation. The KKK is no kid's outfit——and it appears from newsreports that it's members mean business!

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FROM
(FLORIDA CLIPPING SERVICE, TAMPA)
Orlando Sentinel

FLORIDA

DATE

# Conner Uncertain Tax Boost Needed

## Merit Seen In 12-Month School Term, Community Colleges

1 41

By JIM HARDEE
Sentinel Tallahassee Bureau

TALLAHASSEE — The speaker of the house of representatives and president of the state senate have more to say about what laws are enacted and which bills are defeated than any other men in Florida's legislature.

Because they have sole authority in appointing committees that screen proposed laws and refer bills to those groups, the two presiding officers in many instances have decisive influence over legislation.

With this in mind, The Sentinel has posed to Senate President-Designate W. A. Shands and Speaker-Designate Doyle Connor 17 questions on important issues that will face the legislature when it convenes here April 2.

Rep. Doyle Conner

Here are Rep. Conner's answers:

**Q. You have seen the estimates of anticipated revenue as outlined by the comptroller and budget director. Do you believe Florida's normal anticipated growth will provide sufficient money to meet the needs of the state the next two years?**

A. I am not yet convinced that additional revenue will be necessary to operate the state Govt.

**Q. Do you think new tax measures will be required?**

A. If and when I find it is impossible to operate the agencies and support the public school system on the existing revenue, then I would support a revenue measure. I realize that is a very vague reply but I don't want to go out on a limb and say additional revenue is necessary because we really don't know.

**Q. If additional taxes are necessary, what form will they take?**

A. We will cross that bridge when we come to it. If we need new taxes, we will quietly get in there and come up with a revenue measure. When the appropriations committee's recommendations are in excess of anticipated revenue, then we will try to arrange enough revenue to meet the recommendations. I would rather not talk about specific exemptions at this point.

**Q. What do you think of the proposal to increase the auto license tag 50 pct. for school construction in the counties?**

A. I am aware of the acute school needs and hope we will be able to do something to solve the problem but I have not studied the auto tag proposal. We have a number of double sessions and I have studied that. But to say that we are going to raise the license tag fee to take care of the problem, I'm not sure that's the solution.

**Q. Have you given any thought to the plan of using the schools 12 months of the year or to double sessions?**

A. Yes. I have given some thought to the 12-month plan. Based on the fact that some people had rather take their vacations with their families during the winter months, and if we can work out a system whereby the teachers can con- [illegible] their college training, then I think there is

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**Q. Have you given any thought to the plan of using the schools 12 months of the year or to double sessions?**

A. Yes. I have given some thought to the 12-month plan. Based on the fact that some people had rather take their vacations with their families during the winter months, and if we can work out a system whereby the teachers can continue to get their college training, then I think there is merit in a 12-month school term. It would take technical knowledge on how to stagger the terms and teachers. That's the problem and I don't know the answer to it. I think it would make available 25 pct. more classroom space. But after the influx of post-war students levels off, I think there is a good chance we will have adequate facilities, anyway.

**Q. Is a new four-year university necessary?**

A. That is a difficult question to answer. I do not believe in duplicating expensive courses or studies. However, I'm informed that there will be 135,000 students in our institutions of higher learning by 1970 and I do not believe our existing universities are adequately equipped to take care of it.

**Q. Are community colleges [1] desirable [2] economically feasible?**

A. I think community colleges are desirable where they offer certain types of specialized training applicable to the community needs. For instance, some of our industrial concerns tell us they will be willing to employ a number of graduates of these community colleges after they received certain specialized training. I'm talking about students who would pursue vocational training and not an academic course.

As for its economic feasibility, there is a possibility that there would be some contribution on the local level from the communities and that industry would make contributions or offer scholarships to students. The state should make a sizable contribution because those students would go to school anyway, and regardless where they go, it would be an expense to the state. If expansion of the junior college system is not adequate, then the next step should be the establishment of a number of community colleges throughout the state.

**Q. Should teachers receive an across-the-board pay raise this session? If so, how much and how would you provide for the pay raise?**

A. Teachers should be paid salaries which are adequate to attain a sufficient number of qualified teachers for the profession. I do not know how much money will be available for increased salaries or how much at this time we should designate for them. But I am for increasing teachers' salaries.

**Q. Is Florida's increasing welfare roll necessary or can it be trimmed?**

A. I have always supported the public welfare program, and in particular, old-age assistance. I think in the past we have made reasonable appropriations to take care of the needs of the old people and do not see any reason for any decrease in the appropriation.

**Q. How about the aid to dependent children program? Can anything be done to curb the expense of aid to illegitimate children?**

A. I am in favor of continuing the program.

**Q. Should anything be done to strengthen the welfare department's policing authority such as enactment of a lien and recovery law?**

A. I have always been against any lien and recovery law because I believe it would cause old people to deliberately dispose of their property prior to the time they are eligible to receive old-age assistance. I believe it would in-

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**Q. Is there any room for economy in the state's institutions of higher learning in your opinion?**

A. I'm not exactly in a position to say how we could economize because I don't know exactly how they spend their money. If we can economize, I'm for it but I cannot make any specific recommendation on how it can be done.

**Q. Do you think the legislative investigation of the NAACP should be continued?**

A. I am of the opinion the committee has used a lot of discretion in conducting its investigation and that it has been a factor in suppressing violence. If there are any irregularities, the committee will report its findings to the legislature along with recommendations for legislative action.

**Q. Should the legislature take any further precautionary measures to bolster segregation in the schools? For example, Atty. Gen. Ervin says he intends to ask for a law enabling school boards to abolish public schools?**

A. Mr. Ervin's plan has never come before the legislature and I have never given it much thought. A committee appointed by the governor has provided the leadership in recommending a logical and peaceful means of segregation but I don't know what their future recommendations will be.

**Q. Should the state help reimburse citrus growers whose groves have been plowed under illegally?**

A. If the state has caused damage to citrus growers as a result of some illegal act, then I feel the state possibly has a responsibility but I would have to study it.

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FROM
(FLORIDA CLIPPING SERVICE, TAMPA)
Clearwater Sun

FLORIDA
DATE FEB 5 1957

# Group Continues Probe Into State NAACP Actions

TALLAHASSEE (AP)—A legislative investigating committee called up additional witnesses today in an effort to prove the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) was promoting lawsuits in violation of state law.

The committee also summond Virgil D. Hawkins, Daytona Beach Negro, for another appearance in an effort to recheck conflicting statements about the part the NAACP played in financing his long legal fight to get into the University of Florida.

A top Florida official of the NAACP said yesterday while being grilled about activities of the organization that it was obvious the committee was trying to outlaw the NAACP in Florida.

"If you want to get enough information to outlaw us we can stipulate that," said William A. Fordham of Tampa, immediate past president of the Florida Conference of the NAACP and now a state director.

"It is a foregone conclusion what you are driving at and you have already proved it."

Sen. Dewey Johnson of Quinch, a committee member, said the committee was attempting to prove the NAACP was promoting and financing lawsuits in violation of state law.

### Finances Questioned

Yesterday's session was devoted to questioning witnesses about the financing of Hawkins' 8-year-old legal battle to get into the University of Florida Law School.

The U. S. Supreme Court ruled last year that Hawkins, a 47-year-old instructor at Bethune-Cookman College, should be admitted without further delay. The state Supreme Court has not yet issued its order based upon the U. S. court mandate.

Hawkins denied there was any agreement by the NAACP to finance the legal fight and said he had received no funds personally from the organization.

But Fordham and Edward D. Davis of Ocala, a former state NAACP president, testified that some of the cost of the litigation had been paid for by the NAACP.

Davis said Hawkins had received a $150 loan from the NAACP some time last summer and had not repaid it.

Mark Hawes of Tampa, committee attorney, put into evidence photo copies of NAACP checks paid to Horace E. Hill, Daytona Beach Negro attorney, for services and expenses in the case. The checks ranged from $10 to $100.

### Paid By NAACP

Hawes sought to develop by questioning that Hill actually was employed and paid by the NAACP to work in the case.

Hill said that although Robert Carter of New York, assistant counsel for the NAACP's national office, cooperated he had full control of the course of the litigation.

Hill said he drew what money he received from contributions from various groups ceared through Davis.

When the committee gets through with the case it plans to turn to the bus integration drive in Tallahassee and the part played by students at Florida State University and Florida A&M University.

Latest witness to be subpoenaed is John Boardman, a graduate student at FSU who was refused admittance to the school for the semester starting Thursday because of allegedly ignoring orders not to violate racial policies on the campus.

Dr. Doak S. Campbell, FSU president, said the student had ignored orders not to bring three Negro foreign students from A&M to a Christmas party at FSU. Boardman contended he was disciplined because he made a political speech for the Rev. K. S. Pond, Negro candidate for the Tallahassee City Commission.

Among the 20 witnesses subpoenaed are students from FSU and A&M arrested for violating the city's bus seat assignment ordinance; and Dr. George W. Gore president of A&M.

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# Klansmen Lash Collins And Newspapers At Big Meeting

By TOM RAKER
Tribune Staff Writer

TALLAHASSEE, Sept. 1 — Scripture-quoting Florida Ku Klux Klansmen tonight lashed Gov. LeRoy Collins and the state's newspapers for "Communistic actions" in regard to the segregation issue, at a public meeting attended by hundreds of members and curiosity seekers west of Tallahassee.

Meeting under the light of a flaming 20-foot cross, three high officials of the "ressurrected" Klan movement charged the current fight by American Negroes for integrated school facilities is "Communist promoted, Communist led, and Communist financed."

One of the trio told a crowd of attentive listeners the governor by his "dictatorial" action in adjourning the recent special legislative session "kept the state from adopting an interposition resolution by 30 minutes."

**Welcomed—Shunned**

Newsmen were alternately welcomed and shunned as the hooded order first allowed reporters, photographers and television cameramen to move inside a special secondary rope barrier, then took a selected few even closer to the rostrum where more than 300 masked and robed klansmen were listening to the speakers.

One secondary official in the movement told The Tribune he wanted "some favorable publicity out of you."

He said the Klan had told its members to quit taking the Lakeland Ledger because it had not treated the order with favor when a public meeting and cross burning was held there recently.

Hundreds of cars lined busy Route 90 west of Tallahassee an hour before the Klan fest was slated to start, drawing Florida highway patrol officials and troopers to direct traffic.

**Many Out**

Hundreds of curiosity seekers and out-of-county visitors flocked onto the privately owned area in which klansmen clustered to hear the series of speeches on states rights, segregation and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

When The Tribune, AP, St. Petersburg Times and other newsmen present asked to be allowed to get closer to the speakers' stand, each reporter was asked to identify his newspaper.

When the Tribune, Times and AP did so, a hooded official said curtly "nobody can go in . . ." Later though, the same official came back and took Tallahassee AP Bureau Chief Hendrix Chandler up to a front row seat to hear three speakers charge the NAACP was actually "the National Association for the Advancement of Communist Propaganda."

**Hit Governor**

The same speakers assailed the Governor for "mis-using his powers," and charged the four house of representative members named to a committee charged with investigating the NAACP were "ardent Collins" men who would do what the Governor wanted.

Speakers accused the newspapers of giving the NAACP better publicity than the Klan, of misrepresenting what happens at Klan meetings, and apparently most important of all, of underestimating the attendance at Klan rallies.

"There's a columnist at the steering wheel," one fiery speaker declared.

The quiet and attentive crowd responded to points made by the speakers with bursts of applause and calls of a nature calculated to support the points all three officials had made.

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# NAACP Prober Says It Also Would Be Proper To Investigate Kluxers

By FRANK TRIPPETT
(Times Bureau)

TALLAHASSEE — A principal author of the bill creating an interim committee conceived to investigate the NAACP said yesterday he thinks "it would be very proper" for the group also to look into the activities of the Ku Klux Klan.

State Sen. Dewey Johnson of Quincy, the co-sponsor of the measure establishing the committee, was commenting on a statement issued this week by Gov. LeRoy Collins.

Collins, letting the bill become law without his signature, said he was aware it was aimed at the Natioal Association for the Advancement of Colored People but added:

**"The language of the bill is not so restricted, however, and I will refer many inquiries I am receiving regarding the Ku Klux Klan for the scrutiny of the committee also."**

Johnson, one of three senators on the committee, said he thought it "would be well for us to look into that. It would be very proper that we should do that. He probably has some very valuable information."

The committee is expected to get together for its organizational meeting about mid-September. The Legislature provided a $50,000 appropriation to pay for operations.

**"NO DISPUTE"**

Meanwhile, following a recent question raised about who would be chairman of the committee, Johnson said, "There won't be any dispute about that."

If the group followed the custom of naming a senator chairman of a joint committee created by a Senate bill, Johnson would be chairman of the investigating unit.

But reports this week indicated four House members named to the committee have agreed to break from custom and put in Rep. Henry Land of Orange County as chairman.

Authoritative sources say that Land definitely will be the chairman of the committee. When Johnson said, "There won't be any dispute" he meant simply that the House members have enough votes to override the three Senate votes.

**NO COMMENT**

Land said yesterday from his office in Orlando that he did not wish to comment on policy matters of the committee until it has had a chance to meet and to organize.

The representative, temporary chairman of the House contingent said he expected to contact Johnson to arrange an organizational meeting if possible on either Sept. 11, 12 or 13.

The selection of a House member as chairman could possibly lead to some intra-committee strife, especially since it is known that House Speaker Ted David made his appointments to the committee from among more moderate State Representatives to offset what he considered the extremist views of the Senate members.

**Johnson and his two colleagues on the committee, Sen. John Rawls of Marianna, and Sen. Charley Johns of Starke all come from north Florida counties which have heavy Negro population and more intense feelings about racial questions.**

The House committeemen — Land and Reps. W. C. Herrell of Miami, A. J. Musselman Jr., of Broward County and J. B. Hopkins of Pensacola — are considered moderates even while favoring the retention of segregation.

Johnson, when handling the bill in the Senate, made it plain it was aimed at the NAACP although that organization isn't mentioned in the law. But yesterday Johnson said its purpose was to investigate, "not only the NAACP."

"We are not going out on any witch hunt," Johnson said. "We do need some facts on which to base legislation."

## 5 Floridians Reelected By American Bar Group

TALLAHASSEE, (AP)—Five Floridians have been reelected to the House of Delegates of the American Bar Association, which will hold its 79th annual meeting at Dallas, Texas, next week.

Four were named by the Board of Governors of the Florida Bar and the fifth was elected by the State Bar as a whole.

Those elected by the bar are James D. Brewton, Plant City; Donald K. Carroll, Jacksonville; Darrey E. Davis, Miami; and J. Lanc Lazony, Gainesville. Lazonby is president of the Florida Bar.

E. Dixie Beggs was elected as the state delegate to the meeting by members of the bar.

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# Bailey Urges Counties Set Up Bi-Racial Units

TALLAHASSEE, (AP) — State School Superintendent Thomas D. Bailey said yesterday there still is a need for county school boards to set up bi-racial study committees on segregation problems, even with the new segregation program adopted by the Florida Legislature.

"The need for these bi-racial study committees has not diminished with this new legislative program," he said.

Bailey had recommended several months ago that such committees be set up to show good faith in conforming with the U.S. Supreme Court school desegregation decision.

The high court last year ordered that schools be desegregated with all deliberate speed but on the basis of local conditions.

Only a small number of counties actually set up bi-racial committees and Bailey said some persons were under the impression that the need for such committees had diminished with passage of the new pupil assignment law and other legislation designed to block integration.

The state school head said that bi-racial committees could make studies of conditions within the counties and make recommendations for easing problems as they arise. Such action might forestall court suits to force integration, he said.

# NAACP Here Asks Action On School Race Issue

By GEORGE KNIGHT
Tribune Staff Writer

Top area officials of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People at a panel yesterday predicted "plenty of action" on the desegregation question here as they:

1. Promised to take the matter of de-segregation of public schools to court "once we realize that other methods are no longer possible."
2. Foresaw desegregation at Florida's universities "within a very short time."
3. Took issue with an Ybor City editor who charged Negro encroachment is pushing out Latin culture and promised to "protect the rights" of Negro citizens here on real estate purchases.

**Three Orlando Visitors**

Approximately 40 Negros and three Orlando whites (who refused to identify themselves) met at the Edward W. Stone Youth Center here to hear an all-Negro panel discuss the various aspects of segregation.

Francisco A. Rodriguez, special counsel for the NAACP, set the pace as he charged the Hillsborough County School Board has not yet, "to my knowledge," set up a separate committee to effect de-segregation in public schools here.

"However, we will not feel bound by any hand-picked blue-ribbon committee," Rodriguez said. "If they are temporizing or working against our program, we

(Continued on Page 5, Column 5)

# Police Close Lido Beach As Negroes Visit Area

(Continued from Page 1)

already has been closed to bathing because of the rocky surface.

When police cleared the area, the Negroes left in their automobiles and three of the four cars went to Siesta Sands on Siesta Key where several of the group went bathing. Police followed the vehicles until they left the city limits to see that no trouble developed.

Chief Wilson said there were about 100 whites in the area where the Negroes went swimming but there was apparently no hostility shown, although some left the water and went elsewhere. Several teenagers showed up as the Negroes were leaving, but the police chief said he couldn't determine if they were trouble makers or just curious.

The Negroes had not been in the water long at Lido Beach when police cleared the area. A police cruiser spotted the party coming to the beach and radioed Chief Wilson, who arrived with other officers to prevent any trouble that might develop.

Chief Wilson, Detective Floyd Bowers, and Officers W. T. Berry, George Bell, George E. Doughty, Ernest Agnew and Donald Elie spread out along the section of the beach cleared and notified whites and Negroes the area was being cleared. Everyone left without trouble.

Signs were posted on the beach prohibiting swimming there yesterday, but were removed last night, Chief Wilson said.

When the City Commission passed the special ordinance permitting public recreational areas to be cleared, commissioners specified that they believed such action was necessary in the interest of public safety. All felt there was a great deal of tension in the area since Negroes had begun to visit the beaches.

However, commissioners all felt the Negroes should have their own beaches and recommended County Commission action on the matter. No such action has yet been taken.

IF INTEGRATION COMES—

# *Florida U. Student Leader Urges 'Education Program' To Avoid Racial Violence*

GAINESVILLE, Sept. 17—(By Staff Writer)—Fletcher Flemming, president of the University of Florida student body, has suggested an "education program" designed to ward off violence "when and if" integration comes to the university.

His proposal, as reported in the Florida Alligator tonight, would consist of seminars and student-faculty discussions aimed at creating "the right kind of climate of opinion needed among the student body and faculty."

The discussions would not explore the merits of integration or segregation, the student paper said, "because that question would be decided beforehand by the Supreme Court and the board of control."

"Student government is not going to accept or endorse integration itself," Flemming said. "We're going to strive to uphold the dignity of the university if it comes. We can do this by first preventing irresponsibility, then by an education program."

A petition by Virgil Hawkins, Daytona Beach Negro, who has been attempting to enter the university law school for seven years, is still before the State Supreme Court, although the U. S. Supreme Court has ruled he must be admitted on the same basis as other students.

Noon Saturday is the deadline for late registration but Flemming noted, "This does not rule out the possibility of his entering next semester."

Flemming's suggestion was the first proposal from either student of university administration that the university should prepare for eventual integration.

Inquiries to administration officials have brought replies that there are no plans for the eventuality of integration, although there have been some informal discussions about the subject by individual officials.

## Postman Killed

LAKE CITY, Sept. 17—(AP)—Joe McCormick, 32, of Lake City, was electrocuted today while delivering mail on his route. Witnesses said he picked up a wire lying on a street during a heavy rain.

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# Liberty County Hit By Racial Violence

By JACK W. ROBERTS
Miami News Staff Writer

**Cracks in an almost solid wall of opposition to Negro voting appeared imminent in Northwest Florida today as the federal government stepped in to investigate three instances of violence in Liberty County.**

Crosses burned before the homes of two of 12 Negroes who recently registered to vote in Liberty County prompted the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to ask for federal protection for the Negroes.

A shotgun blast which peppered the home of a third Negro voter also was cited by Robert Saunders, NAACP field secretary, who said there is "genuine fear" among the 600 or more Negro residents of thinly-populated Liberty County.

Liberty County, however, is just one of five counties which have all but eliminated Negro voting in the past 40 years.

Nearby Gadsden County, which has more Negro residents than White, has been a stronghold of Ku Klux Klan activities in Florida for many years.

A Miamian who formerly lived in Gadsden County recalled today that the KKK "always held parades when the registration books were opened."

He said Negroes in Gadsden, Liberty, Leon, Calhoun and Jackson Counties were reminded constantly not to register as voters.

The 12 Negroes who registered to vote in Liberty County this month apparently took the action on their own without urging by the NAACP.

"The Negro leaders in the community asked the NAACP to help them and we told them that we would advise but not start an NAACP movement in Liberty County," said Saunders. "We felt that the Negroes there had to show a willingness to organize themselves before we could offer aid."

Saunders said the Negroes attempted to register before the Collins-Johns governorship race and were refused permission by county authorities.

"They told them not to register or there would be trouble," said Saunders.

# Dade Schools Face Suit To Speed Desegregation

By LOUISE BLANCHARD
Miami News Staff Writer

The Dade County Chapter of the NAACP is expected to file suit in Federal Court here soon, asking that the School Board be required to show "clear and visible effort" to move toward integration in the public schools.

Robert Saunders, state secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, was in Miami today conferring with officials of the local chapter.

Officers of the group were unwilling to comment.

Washington and New York officials of the NAACP, however, said the suit is expected to be filed here.

**Action Confirmed**

"We have been asked to assist the local attorney in instituting suit against the Dade County School Board," Robert L. Carter, assistant special counsel for the NAACP, said in New York.

Carter said the suit would be filed in Federal District Court and that the judge here would be asked to determine whether the School Board has taken the steps necessary to meet the requirements of the Supreme Court ruling.

"I haven't handled that particular case," Carter said. "But it is my clear understanding that such a suit is in the wind and will be filed soon."

An official in Washington, who asked that he not be quoted by name, also said he understaood the NAACP in Dade County will file such a suit.

**Reply Dodged Here**

The Rev. Theodore Gibson, president of the NAACP here, asked for time to get further information on plans of the local group.

Other officials of the organization said all information should come from Gibson.

Carter said that, after petitioning the School Board for evidence of an attempt to comply with the Supreme Court ruling, the logical next step for the NAACP chapter would be to file suit in Federal Court.

MAY CHALLENGE NEW LAW—

# West Palm Beach Negro Attorney Seeks To Enter Son, 6, In White School

WEST PALM BEACH, Sept. 1. — (AP) — A Negro attorney tried to register his 6-year-old son in an all-white elementary school today and indicated he would challenge Florida's new pupil assignment law if the application is rejected.

William M. Holland and another Negro attorney, I. C. Smith, took Holland's son, William, Jr., to Northboro School and attempted to enter him.

The Holland family lives in a Negro school district adjacent to the white district.

Holland said that the district line is a "race boundary" and that white children living nearer the Negro school than the Holland family does attend the white school.

The attorney said he wanted the "best circumstances" for the education of his son and added, "it has been proved the best circumstances would be an integrated school."

Asked if it were a test case for the pupil assignment law, Holland said, "We intend to use whatever remedies necessary to get the boy into an integrated school."

Howell L. Watkins, Palm Beach county school superintendent, said Holland was given standard application forms and that if they are returned they will be handled like any other out-of-district application. Under the Florida law, the county school board may decide what school the pupil is to be assigned to.

Watkins said if Holland's applications are received in time, they will be brought before the board at a scheduled meeting Tuesday.

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# The Governor Seeks Advice

Governor Collins has taken a wise step in creating a bi-racial committee to advise him on problems arising in the state's effort to maintain segregation in public schools and institutions.

The Governor has appointed on the committee retired Circuit Judge L. L. Fabisinski of Pensacola, who is to be chairman; President Doak S. Campbell, of Florida State University; and, as the Negro member, J. R. E. Lee, business manager of Florida A. and M. University. Judge Fabisinski has already been at work on the problem, as chairman of a committee of legal experts which drafted the program enacted by the recent special session of the Legislature designed to avoid integration by legal means.

Dr. Campbell needs no introduction to the people of the state. Lee has held his job with the A. and M. since coming to the state 32 years ago. He is 59 years old, native of Texas. His father was president of A. and M. for 20 years, from 1924 to 1944. He has a commendable record of efficient service and constructive, sound thinking.

Governor Collins said: "There is a very strong need for me to have an advisory commission thoroughly familiar with the laws and with conditions throughout the state, to advise me in respect to the implementation of these laws by specific action and also as to the progress we can make otherwise in advancing proper and sound race relations."

The cabinet budget commission has made $15,000 available to meet the expenses of the group. Later, it is probable that local bi-racial committees will be established in communities where racial problems develop.

The program embraces pupil and teacher assignment procedures and grants the Governor extraordinary powers to declare emergencies, mobilize police agencies and make rules and regulations for the use of public facilities which he may deem necessary to preserve peace and tranquility.

By including a Negro in the committee membership Governor Collins recognizes the interest and concern the Negroes of the state have in the procedure. This also will give the Negroes assurance that their welfare will be given fair consideration in whatever plan of procedure is adopted.

Commenting on the situation in a speech at Quincy, House Speaker Ted David said quick action is needed if integration is to be prevented in Florida. He declared the Fabisinski program is better than that adopted in any other Southern state, but that it is "only a slight bulwark against the onrushing flood of integration efforts."

Governor Collins has made excellent selections for the new committee, and we feel sure that the Florida program, with his guidance, can be carried through without undue disturbance.

# Collins Says Florida Must Improve Welfare Of Negroes

MIAMI, Aug. 31—(AP)—Gov. LeRoy Collins said tonight improvement of the welfare of its Negro citizens is one of the "big things" which must be accomplished by the State of Florida.

"We must not let our desire to maintain our traditions of segregation blind us to our responsibilities to aid their improvement and advancement," tht Governor said in a speech prepared for delivery at an installation banquet of the Hialeah-Miami Springs Chamber of Commerce.

"We must improve the welfare of our Negro citizens," he said.

"Too many of them are still living in crime and disease-producing slums. Too many do not receive adequate educational opportunities."

Collins said Florida "has grown out of short pants," has gone through its "adolescent years of irresponsibility and confusion and awkwardness.

"This is no time in Florida's development to coast along, enjoying the material profits of the moment. It is, instead, a time for clear thinking, sound vision and a determined effort if we are to fulfill the responsibilities which lie ahead," he said.

## NAACP Subversive?

VERO BEACH — South Carolina's General Assembly passed the following resolution last Washington's Birthday:

"Whereas the files of the House Committee on un-American Activities reveal records of affiliation with or participation in Communist front, fellow traveling or subversive organizations on the part of the following officials of the NAACP: the president, the chairman of the board, 11 of 28 vice presidents, the treasurer, 28 of 47 directors, the chairman of the national legal committee, the executive secretary, the special counsel, his assistant, the southeast national secretary, the west coast secretary, the director of the Washington bureau and the director of public relations.... the General Assembly of South Carolina believes that the NAACP should be classified as a subversive organization."

It is because there has been no denial of these affiliations that there is a demand in the Southern states for investigation of this organization, whose headquarters are in Freedom House, New York City, a building occupied almost exclusively by listed Communist fronts.

The concern over this situation has resulted in requests for a congressional probe of what has all the appearances of an alliance with the Communist conspiracy.

A bill passed in the special session of the Florida Legislature, establishing a committee with power to investigate the NAACP, became law in default of Governor Collins' signature. In view of the snafu on interposition, which took place in the Legislature last July, there is speculation around the state as to whether a serious probe of the NAACP will be undertaken by the committee of representatives appointed by Speaker Ted David.

NORMAN S. COOKE.

ing with a prayer. In his prayer he touched on mercy, justice, on

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DAVID E. SMILEY, Editor and Publisher — Tampa, Monday, July 23, 1956

# Florida Legal Experts Charge Court Is Usurping Power To Control Nation

There is a profound argument for States' Rights in the report of the special committee appointed by Governor Collins to study the effect of the Supreme Court decision on school integration. Findings of the committee are certain to be studied carefully outside Florida, because they represent the considered opinion of excellent legal thinking and are by no means in the class of some unfortunately "race-baiting" declarations issued in other Southern states.

The committee was headed by the highly respected Judge L. L. Fabisinski and included such competent legal experts as Judge Rivers Buford, Judge Millard Smith, Cody Fowler, Luther Mershon, J. Lewis Hall and John T. Wigginton.

Members of the committee went right to the heart of the Supreme Court decision and correctly labeled it a usurpation of power. They noted that "the entire American system of government is at stake."

This is the real issue. In many high places in government today there is an expanding philosophy of Federalism which would negate individual and States' Rights and make them secondary to the supreme power of Washington bureaucracy. This was pointed out in an editorial of The Times last May 16.

The committee stressed this danger and remarked, "In view of the gravity of the situation, the question of segregation or desegregation in public schools, the seriousness of which cannot be overemphasized, actually becomes one of secondary importance."

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Criticism of the Court does not imply disrespect for the highest judicial body in the land, but it does raise the question of whether the present membership of the Court has violated its Constitutional limitations.

Committee members reflect the sentiments of many laymen when they observe that recent decisions of the Court "impel the conclusion that the Supreme Court of the United States has assumed the power by judicial decree, to change the meaning of the Constitution of the United States, and thus to amend the fundamental law of the land by the act of nine men, or a majority of them, rather than by the orderly processes set forth in the Constitution."

In one vital paragraph, the committee described the danger of government by super-judicial decree and, at the same time, revealed the weakness of the Court's position. It reads:

"No matter how strongly the people of Florida may feel on the question of segregation, they recognize that citizens of other States have the right to entertain a different view. If the views of others attain that unanimity of popular support that is required to amend the Constitution of the United States, and such amendment is adopted, it is the duty of every American citizen to yield gracefully to the will of the people of the country as a whole. On the other hand, every thinking American knows that its surrender to the Supreme Court of power to change the Constitution in order to effect reforms which members of the Court may deem beneficent, will vest in that Court powers to make changes inimicable to the public welfare, and will eventually lead to a complete loss of control of the government by the people."

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It is earnestly hoped that responsible persons in other parts of the nation will study these words and see the truth which they convey. The present philosophy of Federalism dominant in the Supreme Court today is not in keeping with the traditional interpretations of American democracy. A study of recent opinions will lead to the same conclusion as that offered by the Governor's committee. It asserted:

". . . that the present membership of the . . . Court has embarked upon a course of action designed to destroy the system of dual sovereignty, which is the unique feature and fundamental basis of our Union, to destroy the system of division of the powers of government between the Executive, Legislative and Judicial Departments, which is the greatest safeguard of the people against tyranny, and in complete disregard of the Constitution of the United States and the inherent rights of the sovereign States to determine to arrogate to themselves final, complete, supreme and exclusive power over the States, the Federal Government and the people."

The thinking of the committee is based on precedents of long standing. In fact, these precedents date back to the days of George Washington and are outlined in his "Farewell Address." The committee offers the following quotation from that historic document:

"If, in the opinion of the people, the distribution or modification of the Constitutional powers may be in any particular wrong, let it be corrected by an amendment in the way which the Constitution designates. *But let there be no change by usurption*; for though this, in one instance, may be the instrument of good, it is the customary weapon by which free governments are destroyed."

The nation is presently faced with a clear usurption of power by the Court. Thus, it becomes the duty of all the separate States to unite in opposing decisions which fall into this category and insist that the Court re-examine its position and retreat from its foray into fields barred to it by reasonable limitations of the Constitution.

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8-31-56

# The Governor Seeks Advice

Governor Collins has taken a wise step in creating a bi-racial committee to advise him on problems arising in the state's effort to maintain segregation in public schools and institutions.

The Governor has appointed on the committee retired Circuit Judge L. L. Fabisinski of Pensacola, who is to be chairman; President Doak S. Campbell, of Florida State University; and, as the Negro member, J. R. E. Lee, business manager of Florida A. and M. University. Judge Fabisinski has already been at work on the problem, as chairman of a committee of legal experts which drafted the program enacted by the recent special session of the Legislature designed to avoid integration by legal means.

Dr. Campbell needs no introduction to the people of the state. Lee has held his job with the A. and M. since coming to the state 32 years ago. He is 59 years old, native of Texas. His father was president of A. and M. for 20 years, from 1924 to 1944. He has a commendable record of efficient service and constructive, sound thinking.

Governor Collins said: "There is a very strong need for me to have an advisory commission thoroughly familiar with the laws and with conditions throughout the state, to advise me in respect to the implementation of these laws by specific action and also as to the progress we can make otherwise in advancing proper and sound race relations."

The cabinet budget commission has made $15,000 available to meet the expenses of the group. Later, it is probable that local bi-racial committees will be established in communities where racial problems develop.

The program embraces pupil and teacher assignment procedures and grants the Governor extraordinary powers to declare emergencies, mobilize police agencies and make rules and regulations for the use of public facilities which he may deem necessary to preserve peace and tranquility.

By including a Negro in the committee membership Governor Collins recognizes the interest and concern the Negroes of the state have in the procedure. This also will give the Negroes assurance that their welfare will be given fair consideration in whatever plan of procedure is adopted.

Commenting on the situation in a speech at Quincy, House Speaker Ted David said quick action is needed if integration is to be prevented in Florida. He declared the Fabisinski program is better than that adopted in any other Southern state, but that it is "only a slight bulwark against the onrushing flood of integration efforts."

Governor Collins has made excellent selections for the new committee, and we feel sure that the Florida program, with his guidance, can be carried through without undue disturbance.

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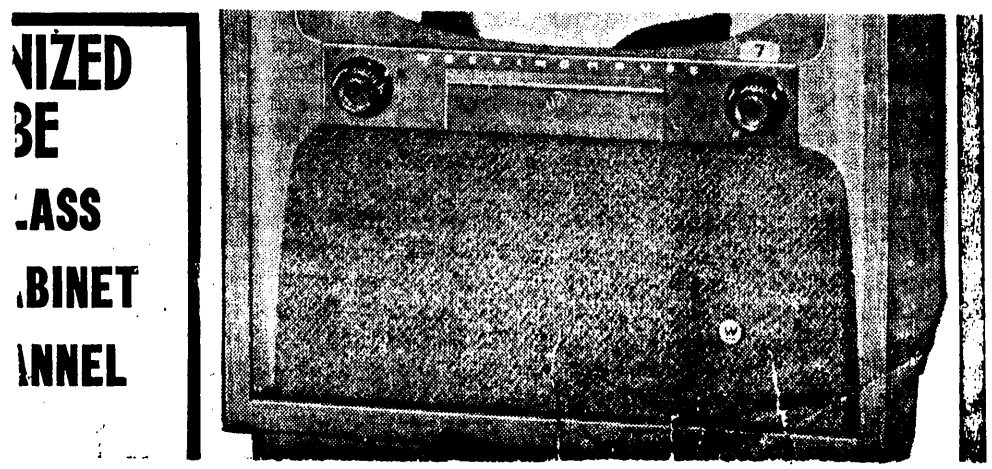

*test, Worth $700, Appears Today on Page 2*

MPA DAILY TIMES **FINAL**

TAMPA, FLORIDA, MONDAY, JULY 23, 1956 PRICE FIVE CENTS **STATE**

# Segregation Heads Agenda As Extra Session Convenes

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## Emergency Matters On List

### Lawmakers Expected To Hear Governor's Recommendations

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The Governor is expected to deliver a message to the lawmakers in person to offer recommendations on the program he outlined in his official call for the session.

**Giant Appropriations**

Altogether, the legislation proposed by Collins is expected to require an estimated $7,700,000 in appropriations. This includes an anticipated five million dol-

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October 3, 1956

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October 20, 1956. Tickets sell for
Your remittance should be _____.
cooperation.

Very truly yours,

Robert L. Saunders

## Adopted Negro Barred From Mobile School

MOBILE, Ala. (AP) — School officials yesterday turned down a request by a prominent Mobile white woman that her foster daughter, a Negro girl, be admitted to an all-white school.

President Kenneth W. Reed of the school board wrote Mrs. Dorothy D. Daponte that "as a matter of public policy, it is not possible for the board . . . to make exceptions of this type."

Mrs. Daponte, who had asked the board to admit Carrie Mae McCants, 12, to the white school, said she had no idea what further action she would take. She said she has not retained counsel.

## Urban League Hits Jacksonville Council, KKK

NEW YORK, (AP) — Officials of the National Urban League yesterday accused the "Ku Klux Klan and White Citizens' Council" of causing the dropping of the League's affiliate from the rolls of the Jacksonville, Fla., Community Chest United Fund.

J. Philip Waring, executive director of the Jacksonville affiliate of the National Interracial Agency, said he was informed Thursday night that the Jacksonville Chest would furnish no further financial support to the Urban League branch there.

Waring said the chest had earlier presented an ultimatum requiring disaffiliation with the national organization, a change in its name and a revision of its politics "to eliminate any consideration of segregation policies."

Waring said the league plans to start a financial campaign in Jacksonville to raise the $24,000 budget which has been cut off by the Community Chest action.

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July 23, 1956

PRICE FIVE CENTS

Tampa Tribune
7-23-56

# Major Battle Over Segregation Due As Legislature Meets

## 'CAN BATTLE 50 YEARS'—

## Legislator Says Stalling Is Florida's Big Hope In Fight To Keep Segregation

By AVERY MEANS
Tribune Staff Writer

A state representative said yesterday "Florida could not hope to win" in the battle against the U. S. Supreme Court's order to integrate public schools, "but we can fight the order for years — 50 years if we have to."

Gibbons

Sam Gibbons, representative from Hillsborough County, appearing on the Press Conference program on WFLA-TV, said:

"Despite what the Supreme Court has ordered us to do, we are going ahead with the long fight to delay integration."

And he added, "There is absolutely nothing the present special session of the legislature, or any other meeting of the legislature, can do to nullify the integration order."

Gibbons, answering questions by Tribune Staff Writers Vernon Bradford, Leo Stalnaker and Clyde Shaffer, continued:

"There is no permanent solution to the segregation problem. We are just battling along in hopes that in the future the Supreme Court will change its mind about the 14th Amendment and the segregation question or that Congress will act."

Gibbons said segregation debate may take most of the time of the 20-day session.

In the Governor's outline of business to be taken up during the 20 days the word segregation was not mentioned.

"We know that any laws we pass in Tallahassee pertaining to segregation will be attacked in court," Gibbons said, "but we can't say when or how long it will take to attack them all."

The Hillsborough representative said he saw no immediate threat for desegregation in the next school session in September.

"Beyond next September no one really knows what will happen. The best thinking in the state is working on the solution to the problem," he said, "I think any solution is years ahead."

Gibbons warned "anything too radical" will be thrown out by the Supreme Court, "and this includes the suggestion of closing the schools."

"We cannot tamper with the Florida public school system and expect the Federal courts to ignore our action," he said. "We have to watch what we do and stay within the limits of the law."

## Move To Pave Way To Abolish Public Schools Expected To Touch Off Fight

By HENDRIX CHANDLER

TALLAHASSEE, July 22 — (AP) —The Florida legislature convenes at 2 P.M. tomorrow in a special session that could get over in a week or last the full legal limit of 20 days.

Clashes between forces for and against doing away with the public school system to preserve segregation are inevitable.

The tipoff on duration of the session may come on the first roll in the house, where most of the segregation factors making for the uncertainties exist.

It is in the house that most of the talk has developed over contesting the right of Gov. LeRoy Collins to restrict segregation legislation to the Fabisinski committe program, and where members have announced they plan introduction of bills on a variety of subjects dealing with race-mixing.

### 13-Point Program

Gov. Collins has handed the lawmakers a 13-point program. Besides segregation, legislation dealing with real estate advertising and highway speed limits show promise of kicking up some controversy.

The Fabrisinski committee has recommended that the legislature revise the 1955 pupil assignment law, enact a similar law dealing with teachers, increase the powers of the governor to deal with disorder and use of public facilities, and initiate a proposed amendment to the federal constitution to clarify states' rights.

Senate leaders arriving for the session said there was some feeling developing in the upper chamber for the legislature to adopt the program recommended by the Fabisinski committee, consider other measures in the governor's call as well as emergency local legislation, then go home.

### Clashes Inevitable

However, if the temper of the house is to dwell at length on the segregation field, then there is every liklihood the session will stretch out to a full 20 days.

The first voting test may come when house members attempt to introduce segregation legislation outside the program outlined by the governor.

It will be up to house speaker Ted David to say whether the bills are within the scope of the governor's call. If they are held to be outside the call then the legislator introducing them could appeal the chair's ruling to the house. Such a vote could provide the tipoff to the feeling of the membership.

A segregation leader in the house, Rep. Prentice P. Pruitt of Jefferson County, said he will attempt to bring up segregation legislation outside the Governor's call and would challenge efforts to require a two-thirds vote.

Pruitt contends the Governor can restrict the legislature to fields but not to specific bills.

The major segregation battle likely will develop over Pruitt's efforts to allow the public school

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Pruitt contends the Governor can restrict the legislature to fields but not to specific bills.

The major segregation battle likely will develop over Pruitt's efforts to allow the public school system to be abolished by referendum vote to prevent racial integration.

Pruitt said he will introduce an emergency amendment to allow residents of any county to abolish their public schools rather than integrate and to provide public funds for the education of pupils in private schools.

Charles Tom Henderson, assistant attorney general in charge of bill drafting, said his office has been asked to draw up a comparatively small number of local bills affecting counties. Less than 50 requests have come in.

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IN 1957 Special Session

Prentice Pruitt
Was listed in the
H.R. Journal as the
Lobbyist for "Le-
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Tampa Tribune
8-31-57

# Pinellas Superintendent Says Negroes 'Well Pleased' With Segregated School Facilities

By RALPH SUMNER
Tribune Staff Writer

CLEARWATER, Aug. 30.—School Supt. Floyd Christian said today the Negroes "are well pleased" with their segregated facilities and opportunities for education in Pinellas County schools.

He predicted there would not be any integration efforts by the Negroes this year in Pinellas.

Christian said he had worked to preserve the segregation of Negro and white children in Pinellas schools and that he would continue this fight.

He is seeking his third four-year term as superintendent of Pinellas schools, on the Democratic ticket, subject to the Nov. 6 general election.

**'All-Out Fight'**

His Republican opponent, Dr. Harold F. Rowe, a former Pinellas speech teacher, announced earlier this week he will wage an all-out fight to preserve segregation in the schools if he is elected.

"The Pinellas County school superintendent and members of the board of public instruction have worked with many outstanding Negro citizens of Pinellas County in the planning and developing of the educational facilities which are now a reality," Christian said. "These facilities are the best available to any Negro citizen in Florida.

"The academic achievement of our Negro youth exceeds that of Negroes in other parts of our state.

"We feel satisfied the basic purpose of the public schools is being achieved. Instruction in the three R's, together with that provided in other subjects, is helping our Negro citizens develop their talent and rich heritage to the fullest."

Christian said the office of superintendent is recognized in the Florida constitution, which requires the segregation of the races in the state schools.

He said he had taken the oath to uphold the constitution, adding, "This I have complied with fully and intend to do so in the future so long as I hold this position."

"I understand our Negro citizens are well pleased with the facilities and educational opportunities which are theirs," he continued.

"We have received no requests on the part of our Negro citizens to attend schools other than those in which they have been enrolled. We do not anticipate receiving such requests during the current school year."

He promised to keep the citizens informed of any contemplated action and any procedures which may be developed to carry out the laws enacted by the Florida Legislature.

"We have always worked with the citizens of all races to the end that the public schools of Pinellas County may serve all our young people in the most efficient and effective manner possible."

**'Had Adopted Policies'**

"This will continue to be my practice while serving as superintendent."

Christian pointed out the school board had adopted policies "pertaining to school zoning and pupil assignment. . . even before the special session of the legislature which enacted further laws pertaining to student assignment."

Yesterday, the GOP controlled board practically rebelled against putting the new pupil assignment law into operation in Pinellas, contending some of the provisions were unAmerican and undemocratic.

9-6-57—Tribune

# 'Integrated' State Basic Law Urged

## Constitution Study Group Asked By Miami Attorney To Eliminate Segregation Part

By TOM O'CONNOR
Tribune Staff Writer

MIAMI, Sept. 5—The attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union in Miami today called for abolition of the section of the Florida Constitution providing for segregation in the public schools.

Tobias Simon told members of the Florida Constitutional Advisory Commission holding its first public meeting here today that "there is no more reason for keeping segregation in the constitution than there is to have a section providing that Florida should have the right to secede from the Union."

He said the decision of the Supreme Court outlaws segregation and there is no longer any reason for keeping it in the constitution.

**Questioned Closely**

Simon did not go unscathed and was questioned closely by several members of the commission which is engaged in drafting a new constitution for the state to be submitted to the 1957 session of the legislature.

Rep. Henry Land of Orange County, a member of the group, asked Simon: "What is the law of the land to which you are referring?"

The attorney answered the Supreme Court decision.

"There is a difference between the law of the land and a Supreme Court decision, isn't there?" challenged Land.

**Concedes Opinions**

Simon admitted that there could be a difference of opinion on that.

Land further asked Simon what the advantages of eliminating the section from a new constitution would be.

Simon answered that it would help to prepare the people of the state for the law of the land.

He said the recent laws enacted by the legislature on the segregation problem were preparing the people for what is to come.

He said the laws, (popularly known as the Fabisinski laws), would prevent what is happening now in Tennessee and Texas where mobs have gathered in opposition to integrated schools.

**Legislator Dubious**

After the session today one legislator was overheard saying that if that were the reason for the laws he would have taken

Bob Coster
the New Constitution now proposed and to be voted on contains this provision
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Bday—

HALL, CARLENE—Funeral services for Carlene Hall, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carl M. Hall of Turkey Creek, Plant City, in charge of arrangements. Durant, Wells Funeral Home.

Benny Fulton, Lamar Futch, Bruce Howell, Kenneth Grimer and Winiford Harrell. Honorary pallbearers will be the members of the Intermediate and Young People's Departments of the Dover Baptist Church. They will meet at the church at 1:45 o'clock. Mr. Griffin is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Osburn M. Griffin, Sr.; two sisters, Miss Fay Griffin and Miss Sue Griffin; his paternal grandmother, Mrs. J. S. Griffin, Sr., and his maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. H. Henderson, Durant, Wells Funeral Home, Plant City, in charge of arrangements.

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**Legislator Dubious**

After the session today one legislator was overheard saying that if that were the reason for the laws he would have taken a longer look at them before voting for them.

Simon also said that an advantage of eliminating the section would be an aid to freedom of education.

Harry Westberry, a representative from Duval County, asked Simon what his views on segregation were prior to the Supreme Court decision.

**Says Not "Legal, Moral"**

"I don't feel segregation is legal or moral," Simon asserted.

Westberry asked if he thought the NAACP had anything to do with "what's going on in Tennessee and Texas."

Simon said he did not know.

James M. Owens, Jr., of West Palm Beach, asked Simon if he did not feel that the people of a state had the right to adopt a constitution dealing with their state.

Simon answered this by saying that the segregation issue is governed by federal law.

He said that states have the

(Continued on Page 5, Column 1)

Bob Coster
the New Constitution Now proposed and to be voted on contains this provision
the Constitution was approved by the State Legislature Body —

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# Constitution Study Group Urged To Omit Segregation

(Continued from Page 1)

right only to adopt a constitution consistent with federal laws.

**Warren Quizzes Him**

Former Gov. Fuller Warren, also a member of the commission, asked Simon: "Suppose the Supreme Court should reverse its decision?" Reminding him that the court had reversed its previous separate but equal doctrine.

Simon repeated that under the present law the segregation section is illegal and any section providing for segregation would also be illegal.

"I believe that every effort should be made to pass a constitution that is not an anachronism," declared Simon.

Finally Raymer Maguire, Orlando attorney, asked if Simon did not think it possible for the Supreme Court to exceed its jurisdiction.

**"Never Seen It Done"**

"I've never seen it done," answered Simon.

"You've read this decision, haven't you," countered Morris White, Tampa attorney. This was greeted by laughter from the audience.

Simon was followed to the rostrum by Richard Fink, Miami Beach attorney for the American Jewish Committee. He also called for abolition of the segregation article, but said he was not calling for it on any emotional grounds, but purely on the grounds that any such section would be illegal.

**Could Act in Reversal**

He said that elimination from the constitution would not prevent the legislature from passing laws in the event that the Supreme Court should reverse itself on the segregation decision.

Mrs. W. L. Mussette, representing the Florida Congress of Parents and Teachers, in making her recommendations said the segregation section should be "modified" if "the Supreme Court decision is to prevail."

She had no suggestion as to what the "modifications" should be.

About 40 persons attended the meeting here today and several persons spoke explaining what they think would be needed in a revision of the present state constitution.

A second session is scheduled for tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock and subsequent public hearings are scheduled in Tampa Thursday and Friday and next week in Orlando, Jacksonville and Pensacola.

Some commission members expressed disappointment that there were no specific proposals dealing with revision, but that most of them were in generalities.

**Urges Flexibility**

Mrs. Florence Williams, representing the League of Women Voters in the Miami area, said the league has been working for constitutional revision for more than 10 years and explained that her organization had agreed that a new constitution should be flexible and simple and amenable to change.

She listed the following provisions as desirable in a revised constitution: Home rule for municipalities and counties to give the legislature more time to attend to state matters and eliminate the local bill evil; a merit system; state tax commission; a single agency for tax collections; elimination of school trustees; provision for a secret ballot in so many words, put specifically in the constitution that women have the right to vote.

"One section of the constitution still says voters should be 'males'," she declared.

**Asks Home Rule**

William L. Pallette, Miami, representing the Metropolitan Charter Board, asked for home rule in the counties and counties that suffer from "metropolitanitis," citing Dade County as a prime example.

Pallette said it is basically wrong for the state legislature to pass on local matters. He termed it depriving the people of their rights.

Mrs. W. L. Mussette, representing the Florida Congress of Parents and Teachers, proposed that any revision should contain the words that the state will provide for an "adequate system of public instruction." She said this would provide for kindergartens.

**Wants Oil Funds**

She said the state congress had gone on record as approving no [illegible] the election of a state [illegible] ngs

Oct 5-56

## Negroes Ask More Police Protection At Winter Haven

WINTER HAVEN, Oct. 4. —(Special—More police protection for the people of the Florence Villa area was asked of the Winter Haven city commission Tuesday night by a delegation of Negro citizens.

L. B. Broxley headed the group which asked that another officer be assigned to that area to supplement the work of Joel Wilburn, Negro patrolman, who is on duty from 4 P. M. to midnight. Broxley said the need for police protection is greatest during the mornings and afternoons when children are traveling the streets to and from school. Winter Haven's two Negro schools—Jewett Elementary and Jewett High—are located in Florence Villa.

The delegation was informed by City Manager J. H. Fuller that provision is being made for another officer in the 1956-57 city budget now under consideration and that the commission will do everything possible to provide adequate protection in the Florence Villa area.

change in [illegible] school superintendent; making certain that the schools will be able to get money from the proceeds from state owned mineral rights such as tidelands oil; elimination of the district trustees; school board members to serve without a salary; eliminating the section of state normal schools; appointment of county superintendents in the counties that want it; providing that school elections should be held on a non-partisan basis and at some other time than the general elections.

In reply to a question as to whether or not persons should be able to escape school taxes, Mrs. Mussette said "every person who lives in a community must share the expense."

She was also asked if her organization is of the opinion that the state should be allowed to levy taxes on homestead exemptions for schools, but she said that had not been gone into.

**Hits Union Shop Ban**

Howard D. Walton, president of the State Industrial Union Council, who said he was appearing on behalf of the CIO, asked that in any revision the so-called "right to work" amendment be eliminated.

The amendment provides that no person shall be deprived of the right to work because he does not belong to a labor union.

Walton said the right to work law does not provide anyone with a job in Florida, but that it helps "free riders" to get the benefits of the labor union negotiated contracts without belonging to the union or contributing to it.

"The law is a restriction of our rights," he declared. He added that it is a device used by management "to prevent us from discussing" the union shop over the negotiation table.

**Says Firm Uses Law**

He said the law is used specifically by the Bell Telephone Company "that spends considerable amount of money encouraging new employes not to join a union."

Raymer Maguire asked Walton that if the section, which is a part of the declaration of rights, would not prevent a man from working if he did not belong to a labor union.

Walton replied that the union wants to eliminate free riders and that anyone getting the benefits of a union contract should pay dues to the union because running a union is an expensive thing.

**"Levy a Tribute"**

"You're going to levy a tribute on him," stormed Maguire.

"He wouuld have to pay," answered Walton cooly.

Walton said eliminating the right to work amendment would give unions the right to bargain for a union shop, which permits management to hire a man who does not belong to a union, but forces the man to join the union after a specified period of time.

This is in contrast to a closed shop where a man must be a union member before he can go to work in the first place.

John McCarthy, Ft. Pierce, brother of the late Gov. Dan McCarty, and chairman of the Citizens Constitution Committee, summed up the work his organization has done since it started in 1950.

He called the present constitution a patchwork and called for reorganization of the executive and judicial branches of the government.

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*Stewart Alsop*

# Kentucky Candidates Mum On Integration

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—There is one issue here, and one only, which really makes the pulses of the voters beat faster. It is the one issue which is never mentioned at all by any of Kentucky's four senatorial candidates. The issue is, of course, the racial integration of the schools.

This reporter spent many hours interviewing voters in four districts of this city, carefully chosen by a professional public opinion expert to represent an economic and political cross-section. The purpose was to test not only voting intentions but the voters' reactions to three subjects—the President's health, Adlai Stevenson's divorce and school integration.

The reactions to questions about the President's health and Stevenson's divorce were curiously similar. "Why, that never entered my head," people would say, often in a tone of protest tinged with indignation, or: "Why, I don't think that has any bearing at all."

* * *

**ONCE IN A LONG WHILE,** perhaps once in 15 interviews, someone would say that the President's health was "something you had to think about." But in every case the voter who expressed such doubts had already made up his mind to vote Democratic on other grounds. In short, Democratic strategists who are counting on "the health issue" as a central Stevenson asset would appear to be fooling themselves—an observation born out of other pulse-feeling expeditions in other parts of the country.

By the same token, we found not a single voter—no one—who admitted that he was influenced in any way by Stevenson's divorce. This was as true of Catholic voters as of others.

* * *

**SOME PEOPLE, NO DOUBT,** are not wholly candid when they talk about such subjects with a stranger. But again and again one sensed a feeling of indignation that such personal matters should be discussed at all. Both the President's health and Stevenson's divorce are clearly political two-edged swords.

The integration issue is, on the other hand, a one-edged sword, in the sense that it cuts in only one direction among the whites in this border state city.

For, especially in the poorer white sections of this city, the resistance to integration is absolutely monolithic.

Occasionally it is blind and bitter and filled with unreasoning hate. More often it takes the form expressed by an elderly one-legged man in a low income housing project in the Shelby area: "I don't think the Negroes should be tromped on. I think they should have as good a chance as anyone else. But I sure don't see why we should be all mixed up together."

* * *

**THE RESISTANCE** is especially strong in the heavily unionized workers' districts—the idea that racial liberalism goes hand in hand with unionization is simply not true, at least in these parts. In this respect, in fact, the Catholic Church has done a far more effective job of persuasion than the unions—"We've had colored children in the parochial schools for some time now," one Catholic worker said, "and it's worked out all right." He was typical of others.

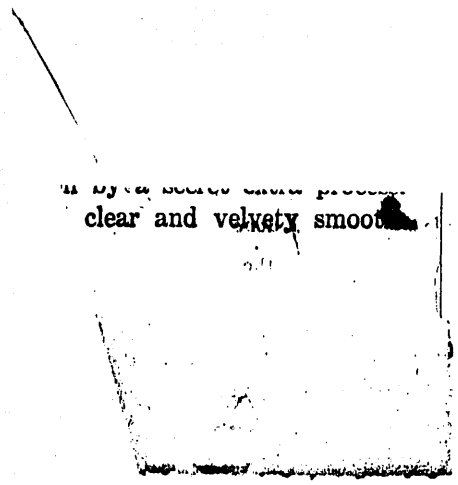
As one moves away from the crowded low income areas into the middle class districts like Highlands or Crescent Hills, one finds a milder reaction. Once in a while, a person will even express approval of the integration program—"Color's only skin deep," one man said, and a woman remarked that "it's all according to the good book."

* * *

**BUT EVEN IN SUCH AREAS** the white people oppose integration by an overwhelming majority. The political implications of this almost universal feeling are suggested by the hostility to Kentucky's Gov. "Happy" Chandler which is found everywhere in Louisville. Chandler is heartily disliked for many excellent reasons. But the unpalatable truth is that he is disliked most for one of the few really responsible acts of his career—calling out the National Guard to prevent rioting over integration in Sturgis.

Disregarding the issues which really hit home to the voters is not usually a laudable practice in a democracy. But in these special circumstances, it is to the credit of all four major candidates in Kentucky that not one of them has seized the one-edged sword of integration to slash his opponent's jugular with it. For the Negro vote is a surprisingly small minority of the total in this border state. And there is much political hay to be made from the integration issue by any politician who wished to do so at the risk of sparking a general racial conflagration.

(Copyright, 1956, New York Herald Tribune, Inc.)



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# Along Freedom's Road

By RUTH PERRY

In view of recent developments it would seem advisable at this time to devote this column to discussion of a recent NAACP pamphlet.

## AN AMERICAN ORGANIZATION

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is an American organization, deriving its philosophy, its program and its goals from the nation's cherished democratic traditions. From the beginning, the task of the NAACP has been to wipe out racial discrimination and segregation. It has worked always in a legal manner, through the courts, and according to federal and state laws and the United States Constitution. It has also sought the enactment of new civil rights laws and the development of a favorable climate of opinion.

## WHITE SUPREMACY AND SMEAR CAMPAIGNS

The NAACP, as the record plainly shows, has won many battles in the long struggle for first class citizenship for Negro Americans. These successes have aroused the anger of those who believe in the segregated system —the Jim Crow way of life.

The leaders of this outmoded system have in actuality declared war on the NAACP because it has spearheaded the fight for equality. They have passed laws, invoked economic sanctions, and resorted to threats, intimidation and violence in their efforts to wreck the NAACP and halt the march of democratic progress.

In recent years, the defenders of this lost cause have sought to smear the NAACP by falsely linking it with the Communist party. The more reckless white supremacy spokesmen have openly charged that the NAACP is "Communist-dominated" and listed as "subversive." The more cautious have tried to convict the NAACP of "guilt by association." The NAACP position on the Communist party is clear and unequivocal, and has firmly and consistently turned back efforts of the Communists to infiltrate the organization.

## NAACP NOT SUBVERSIVE

The NAACP is not, and never has been, listed as subversive by any federal agency or official. Neither the United States Attorney General nor the House Un-American Activities Committee includes the NAACP on a list of subversive organizations. Both the House and Senate committees empowered to investigate subversive activities have at times been headed by such avowedly white supremacies and declared enemies of the NAACP as Representative John Rankin and Senator James O. Eastland, both of Mississippi. The NAACP has never been called before either of these committees because there has never been any evidence of Communist domination of the organization.

The NAACP grew out of a conference called on Feb. 12, 1909, the centennial of Abraham Lincoln's birth. Its basic policies were formulated in the early years. The Association's annual report for 1913 declared: "We in-

NAACP, summed up the Americanism of the Negro and the NAACP as follows. "In demanding these things — that our national government enact a civil rights program and that mobs, whether they be lynchers in Mississippi or swimming pool hoodlums in Missouri, be blotted out — we do not cry out bitterly that we love another land better than our own, or another people better than ours."

"This is our land. This is our nation. We helped to build it. We have defended it from Boston Common to Iwo Jima. We have helped to make it a better land through our songs, our laughter, our expansion and clarification of its Constitution and its Bill of Rights, through our talents and skills, all the way from Benjamin Banneker who helped to lay out Washington, D. C. to Ralph Bunche who made peace a working reality in 1949.

We are Americans, and in the American way, with American determination to be free, we intend to continue to fight in the same legal way we have used since the beginning of the organization. The business of the NAACP is to work for civil rights for the elimination of racial barriers, for an America with full equality for all its citizens. It was founded for, and has adhered to, this high purpose. The association does not propose to be diverted from this goal by intimidation, threats or smears of the white supremacists."

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The NAACP grew out of a conference called on Feb. 12, 1909, the centennial of Abraham Lincoln's birth. Its basic policies were formulated in the early years. The Association's annual report for 1913 declared: "We intend to push vigorously the fight against segregation in all its forms." It was not until 1919, after World War I, that the Communist party was organized in the United States. It is obvious therefore, that the policy of fighting segregation originated with the NAACP, and was not "Communist inspired" as smear campaigns from white supremacists would have the public believe.

## NAACP STATEMENT OF POLICY

In a recent address, Roy Wilkins, executive secretary of the NAACP, traced the development of the association from the days of Benjamin Banneker who helped to lay out Washington, D. C. to Ralph Bunche who made peace a working reality in 1949.

We are Americans, and in the American way, with American determination to be free, we intend to continue to fight in the same legal way we have used since the beginning of the organization. The business of the NAACP is to work for civil rights for the elimination of racial barriers, for an America with full equality for all its citizens. It was founded for, and has adhered to, this high purpose. The association does not propose to be diverted from this goal by intimidation, threats or smears of the white supremacists."

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# THE MIAMI NEWS

Established May 15, 1896

James M. Cox Jr., *President* — William C. Baggs, *Editor*

D. J. Mahoney, *Publisher* — James R. Brumby, *Gen. Manager*

Hoke Welch, *Managing Editor*


"We live under democracy. Government is created and controlled by public opinion. If public opinion has an untruth fed to it, it will be just as harmful as though we had deadly poison in our drinking water."

James M. Cox, Publisher, 1923-1957



## Letters To The Editor

# *NAACP Answers Collins*

To the Editor of The Miami News:

The Miami branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was very interested in Gov. LeRoy Collins' recent article in Look Magazine. Living within the framework of one of the "reluctant" deep South states, we approach integration on the basis of principles in the U.S. Constitution rather than State laws and statutes determined to maintain segregation.

In the South today, the meaning of "moderate," "patient" and "gradual" depends on which side of the fence you stand. To the NAACP, patience does not mean submission to undemocratic practices; moderation does not mean refusal to try to obtain equality of civil rights; and gradualism does not mean "never" or stagnation in the status quo.

We have been told that the majority of White Southerners want a fair solution of this problem. If this majority feels as Gov. Collins stated they do, why do they permit a small minority of belligerent segregationists to speak for them?

Segregation and Jim Crow are not only the result of mores and tradition; they are the result of statutes passed by southern states. It is a policy of the NAACP not to seek legal redress through the courts until all other avenues have been exhausted. Proceeding through courts is not a hasty process and cannot be called acting in irresponsible haste or proceeding in an extreme manner.

An interracial commission with appointees selected by the governors of the southern states has been suggested by Gov. Collins. In all frankness, what progress toward interracial understanding could be made by appointees of governors committed to the continuation of segregation? This would be a stalemate. Both sides of the question must be heard and studied. We cannot have a just solution without representatives of both sides coming together.

Gov. Collins pleaded for moderation. But can one be moderate with moral values, human dignity or freedom? Negroes, like other American citizens, feel within their hearts the desire for recognition as human beings. Human progress, especially in the matter of progress between the races, is not inevitable or automatic as many White Southerners would have us believe. It must be planned for and executed by those who would like to achieve a just solution to this challenge in democratic living.

THE REV. THEODORE R. GIBSON
President, Miami NAACP Branch

Miami

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Florida Suit

May 16, 1958

Mrs. Walter Perry
1664 Meridian Avenue
Miami Beach, Florida

Dear Ruth:

I am scheduled to arrive in Miami on Tuesday, May 20, at 4:55 P.M. I would like to look at the newspaper clippings and other information you have on the background of the legislative investigative committee while I am in Miami. Perhaps I might be able to take a look at it on Tuesday night?

My best regards, and looking forward to seeing you and Walter.

Sincerely yours,

Robert L. Carter
General Counsel

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Mr. O. C. Everhart, Librarian
Miami Beach Public Library
2100 Collins Ave.
Miami Beach, Fla.

Dr. Harold Klock
HI 8-4590 - Res.

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As a result of recent Legislative hearings, contempt proceedings have been filed by Committee attorney Mark Hawes.

Contempt citation which might result in criminal indictment would result in possible loss of position for Librarian Ruth W. Perry inasmuch as her civil service contract indicates that upon any criminal indictment, the employee is subject to dismissal.

Bill of particulars, or enabling bill, under which the Legislative Committee operates provides for criminal indictment in the event of contempt citation

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
Miami Branch
P. O. Box 6, Miami 33, Florida
Office of the President

May 21, 1958

Editor of Look
488 Madison Avenue
New York 22, New York

Dear Sir:

The Miami, Florida, Branch of the NAACP was very interested in Governor Collins' recent article in Look. Living and working within the framework of the traditional mores of one of the "reluctant" deep south states, our approach to the problem of integration is based, we believe, upon the broader values and more fundamental principles of our founding fathers and our U.S. Constitution, rather than upon the laws and statutes of a state determined to maintain segregation.

In the south today, the meaning of the words "moderate", "patient" and "gradual" depends upon what side of the fence you are standing. To the NAACP, patience does not mean submission to undemocratic practices; moderation does not mean refusal to try to obtain equality of civil rights; and gradualism does not mean "never" or stagnation in the status quo of tradition and Jim Crow.

In the matter of civil rights, there can be no real progress with a stalemate of opinions, arbitrarily held views or political expediency, and no truly satisfactory solving of our problem by fence straddling. We must meet it head-on with courage and honesty.

We have been told that the majority of white southerners want a fair solution of this problem. However, if this majority feels as Gov. Collins has stated in his article, why do the people of the South permit a small minority of belligerent segregationists to speak for them? Why do they continue in silence allowing the rest of the United States and the world think they are condoning the words and actions of the White Citizens' Councils?

Segregation and Jim Crow are not only the result of southern mores and tradition; they are the result of statutes passed by southern states. The NAACP, during the past fifty years, has striven to seek legal redress through the courts of our land from the prejudiced and discriminatory statutes of southern states against Negroes. It is a policy of the NAACP not to seek legal redress until all other avenues have been exhausted. Proceeding through courts of law is not a hasty process. By no manner of speaking can remedy so sought be called acting in irresponsible haste or proceeding in an extreme manner.

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An interracial commission at the federal and state level, working together, with appointees selected by the governors of the southern states has been suggested by Gov. Collins. In all frankness, what progress toward interracial understanding could be made by an appointee of the governors of southern states committed to the continuation of segregation? This would not be a solution, it would be a stalemate.

In this time of social change in the south, many words have been spoken. However, words are useless without constructive action. Both sides of the question must be heard and studied, with sincere striving for a just solution. We cannot have this without representatives of both sides coming together. A segregationist cannot speak for his state alone, neither can an integrationist. But a forthright and honest desire on both sides for a better south can bring progress.

Gov. Collins pleads for moderation. But can one be moderate with moral values, human dignity or freedom? Negroes, like other American citizens, feel within their hearts the desire for recognition as human beings, and a striving toward the ideals of democracy. Human progress, especially in the matter of progress between the races, is not inevitable or automatic as many white southerners would have us believe. It must be planned for and executed by those who would like to achieve a just solution of this challenge in democratic living.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) Theodore R. Gibson

Fr. Theodore R. Gibson, President

Copies to: The Miami Herald
The Miami Daily News
Mr. Roy Wilkins, Executive Secretary, NAACP
Mr. Gloster B. Current, Director of Branches
Mr. Henry Lee Moon, Director of Public Relations
Mrs. Ruby Hurley, Southeastern Regional Director
Mr. Robert F. Saunders, Florida Field Secretary

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State Capitol Virginia

June 4, 1958

PRESS RELEASE

The N.A.A.C.P. filed a petition for writ of certiorari in the United States Supreme Court today seeking a review of the decision of the Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia (the highest state court) requiring the N.A.A.C.P. to produce its membership lists before the Committee on Offenses against the Administration of Justice (a legislative committee) holding valid statutes forbidding the Association from assisting needy litigants in suits involving racial discrimination.

The Association's lawyers alleged in this petition that the Virginia court's opinion requiring such disclosure was a violation of its right of free speech and freedom of association as guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States and that of its members.

As another basis for review by the Court, the Association's brief pointed out that this decision was directly contrary to a decision of a Virginia federal court in January on the same issue where such enforced disclosure and Virginia statutes barring assistance by N.A.A.C.P. litigants in cases involving racial discrimination were held invalid.

Representing the N.A.A.C.P. were Robert L. Carter, General Counsel, Oliver W. Hill of Richmond, Virginia, and S. W. Tucker of Emporia, Virginia.

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Communism

15791 JUN24'58

# The Georgia Commission on Education

## Atlanta

June 17, 1958

HON. MARVIN GRIFFIN
GOVERNOR
CHAIRMAN

HON. ERNEST S. VANDIVER
LT. GOVERNOR
VICE-CHAIRMAN

HON. MARVIN E. MOATE
SPEAKER OF HOUSE

HON. B. E. THRASHER, JR.
STATE AUDITOR

HON. EUGENE COOK
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

HON. ROBERT O. ARNOLD
CHM. BOARD OF REGENTS

HON. GEORGE P. WHITMAN, JR.
CHM. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

HON. CLAUDE PURCELL
STATE SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

HON. HARMON CALDWELL
CHANCELLOR UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

HON. B. D. MURPHY
CHM. JUDICIAL COUNCIL

HON. GEORGE L. SMITH II
1ST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. FRANK S. TWITTY
2ND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

MRS. CHARLES R. CRISP
3RD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. HARVEY C. CUTTS
4TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

MISS IRA JARRELL
5TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. MARK SMITH
6TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. J. BATTLE HALL
7TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. ROBERT SAPP
8TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. JOHN S. WOOD
9TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. ROY V. HARRIS
10TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. JOHN SAMMONS BELL
GEORGIA BAR ASSOCIATION

HON. COLBERT HAWKINS
GENERAL COUNSEL

T. V. WILLIAMS, JR., EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

EXECUTIVE OFFICES
220 AGRICULTURE BUILDING
19 HUNTER STREET, S. W.
ATLANTA 3, GA.

Post
New York City
New York

Gentlemen:

During March, 1958, this office mailed to you Volume One of Communism and NAACP. This evidence of subversion and racial unrest was introduced on February 10, 1958, before the Florida Investigation Committee at Tallahassee, Florida.

This Commission has reprinted Volume Two of these materials, listing the Communist affiliations of national leadership of the NAACP, and we are enclosing a copy for you.

All of this evidence was given under oath, and the Florida Legislation Investigation Committee is a legislative investigative committee established pursuant to the Florida laws.

These materials should further contribute to your understanding of racial problems.

Sincerely,

T. V. Williams, Jr.

TVWjr:js

Enc.

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We have not had a chance to read the entire text of Governor Collins's article, but we understand he believes that states and communities should formulate plans for compliance, bearing in mind their special situations. We agree, wholeheartedly.

But the states and local communities do not need any additional instructions from the Federal courts or from Congress. They have been free--and indeed, obligated--to act affirmatively ever since the Supreme Court handed down its opinion. A goodly number has acted.

We are convinced that if local communities in the South were free from pressures imposed by some Governors and state legislative machines, many more would adopt desegregation plans for their areas. The very freedom of action which the Southern states are demanding of the Federal government is denied by them in turn to their local communities.

Governor Collins is in error, however, when he states that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People decides when and where desegregation should take place. If we had had that power, every community in the affected states, after four years, would have at least made a beginning in good faith toward compliance with the Court's ruling.

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
20 WEST 40th STREET, NEW YORK 18, N. Y.
LOngacre 3-6890

*Please direct reply to:*
Robert Saunders
705 E. Harrison Street
Tampa 2, Florida

Fla. Leg. Investigating Com

16907 JUL 7 58

July 3, 1958

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Roy Wilkins, Executive Secretary, NAACP

FROM : Robert W. Saunders, Field Secretary, NAACP

The following is a report on a recent hearing conducted by the Florida Legislative Investigating Committee in which some unexpected testimony by an undercover agent for the FBI was revealed. I think that since the evidence involved the Murder of Harry T. Moore that it should be brought to your attention. We have not make any comment from Florida because of our position in regards to this committee.

The Committee met in Tallahassee, Florida for a three day session starting June 25 and ending on June 27. On June 28 a report appearing in the Daily Papers told of testimony given by a Richard L. Ashe of Winter Haven, Florida. Mr. Ashe was allowed to testify after his name was brought up in earlier committee hearings. I do not believe that it was intended for his appearance before the group; however, what he said has caused the Governor to call on the Sheriff's Bureau to begin investigating the Klan.

Another interesting item was the fact that a member of the committee offered to step down because of his past affiliation with the Klan. The Senator from Liberty and Calhoun Counties (Blounstown, Florida), Bart Knight, admitted before the committee that he was a former member of the Ku Klux Klan. His membership extended back , according to him, some twenty years. He offered to step down from the committee, but his offer was refused. It is rumored that the chairman of the committee, Charlie Johns was also a former Klan member. We are seeking to substantiate this allegation.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Saunders

encl: newspaper clippings

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July 8, 1958

Dear Mr. Saunders:

Your letter of July 3 to Mr. Wilkins, attention of Mr. Current, arrived when both Mr. Wilkins and Mr. Current were attending the NAACP convention in Cleveland. Upon his return to the city after July 15, your letter will be brought to Mr. Wilkins' attention.

Very truly yours,

Joyce Lambert
Mr. Wilkins' office

Mr. Robert Saunders
705 East Harrison Street
Tampa 2, Florida

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SOUTHWEST REGION
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE
ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
2600 FLORA ST.
DALLAS 4, TEXAS

AIR MAIL

August 12, 1958

19349 AUG14'58

C O P Y

Mr. E. M. Dealey, President
The Dallas Morning News
Young and Houston Streets
Dallas, Texas

Dear Sir:

This is to strongly object to the use of an illustration which accompanied an editorial in your paper of August 12, 1958. The illustration was a flag on which appeared the "hammer and sickle" with the letters "NAACP" inscribed accross the top.

In the editorial the News states that the listing of names (by the Florida Investigative Committee) "do not prove Communist Party membership, nor is this alleged."

I am sure that the News has had information over the years of the repudiation and expulsion by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People of Communists and communism. A final note was added recently by FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover in his book, "Master of Deceit," which declare that the "NAACP's National Leadership has vigorously denounced communist attempts at infiltration." Referring to the method used by an NAACP Leader in Norfolk, Virginia in locating and ejecting a communist from a branch meeting, Mr. Hoover said it was, "one of the most effective anti-communist measures I have ever heard of."

The illustration is derogatory and offensive. The appearance of such an illustration on the page of the News raises questions as to whether your paper is rendering opinions based on fact or that you have entered the field of propaganda calculated to defame and smear the Association and plant doubt in the minds of many readers.

If the intention is not to smear the name of the Association, it is requested that such offensive material not be included in future issues of your paper. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Edwin C. Washington, Jr.
FIELD SECRETARY

ECW:rot

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Florida Legislative Case

September 22, 1958

Father Theodore Gibson, President
Miami Branch, NAACP
Box 6
Miami 33, Florida

Dear Father Gibson:

I am enclosing herein a statement of expenses as of now which is the amount owed toward my expenses in traveling between New York and Miami and Tallahassee in connection with the legislative hearings and the school case.

As you will see, this has grown considerably, and I would think that it would be best if you would take care of this at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely yours,

Robert L. Carter
General Counsel

Encl.

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT
OF COLORED PEOPLE

20 WEST 40TH STREET — NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

DATE Sept. 22, 1958

Miami Branch, NAACP
c/o Father Theodore Gibson, Pres.
Post Office Box 6
Miami, Florida

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Previous balance as of 7/1/58 | $ 566 | 88 |
| As of 8/15/58 (Gibson case)<br>Plane fare----$ 142.23<br>Misc.---------20.00 | 162 | 23 |
| As of 9/1/58 (Tallahassee)<br>Plane fare----$ 142.89<br>Misc.---------20.00 | 162 | 89 |
| Total | $ 892 | 00 |

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT
OF COLORED PEOPLE

20 WEST 40TH STREET NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

DATE August 14, 1958

Miami Branch, NAACP
c/o Father Theodore Gibson, Pres.
Post Office Box 6
Miami, Florida

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Previous balance as of July 1,1958 | $ 566 | 88 |
| As of Aug. 15 (Gibson case) | | |
| Plane fare--$142.23 | | |
| Misc.-------20.00 | | |
| | 162 | 23 |
| Total | $ 729 | 11 |

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Duplicate

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT
OF COLORED PEOPLE

20 WEST 40TH STREET NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

DATE August 14, 1958

Miami Branch, NAACP
c/o Father Theodore Gibson, President
Post Office Box 6
Miami 33, Florida

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Previous balance as of July 1, 1958---------- | $ 566 | 88 |
| As of August 15 (Gibson case) | | |
| Plane fare----$ 142.23 | | |
| Misc.--------- 20.00 | 162 | 23 |
| Total | $ 729 | 11 |

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT
OF COLORED PEOPLE

20 WEST 40TH STREET NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

DATE August 14, 1958

Miami Branch, NAACP
c/o Father Theodore Gibson, Pres.
Post Office Box 6
Miami, Florida

| | | |
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| Misc.-------20.00 | | |
| | 162 | 23 |
| Total | $ 729 | 11 |

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT
OF COLORED PEOPLE

20 WEST 40TH STREET NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

DATE July 1, 1958

Father Theodore Gibson, Pres.
Miami Branch, NAACP
Post Office Box 6
Miami, Florida

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| May 1958---Trip to Miami for pre-trial conference re Gibson v. Dade County School Board | | |
| June 1958--Trip to Miami for trial in Gibson case | | |
| July 2, 1958--Trip to Miami for hearing of Legislative Committee | | |
| Total round-trip air fares--------- | $ 506 | 88 |
| Limousines, taxis, skycaps, etc. 3 trips at $20.00---------- | 60 | 00 |
| | $ 566 | 88 |

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Florida Libel Suit

December 3, 1958

Dear Frank:

I went to Miami November 23 for an NAACP meeting and, of course, ran into the Governor Collins proposal. Our local Miami members are very, very skeptical of anything proposed by Collins, holding that while he has acknowledged that the Supreme Court rulings are the law of the land (and thus is in sharp contrast to Governors Griffin of Georgia and Timmerman of South Carolina), his proposal would substitute state commissions named largely by Governors for the Federal courts.

I agree with them, and the more so after re-reading the piece the Governor wrote for the Washington Star. An analysis of all the items would require too long a letter. Let's just take the aspect of delay.

1. There would be a long wrangle over getting the bill before Congress. It might easily be held over until the second session. Consideration of it might be used to sidetrack all other civil rights bills. States and localities which might be planning to act would tend to wait and see what Congress is going to do. Support of the bill by civil rights organizations would be tantamount to admitting that the Federal courts are not sufficient as implementation agencies--a position the NAACP is not prepared to take.

2. If the bill should be passed, there would be another long wrangle over the naming of the commissions. Here again localities would tend to await commission organization.

3. If the commissions were ever organized, then there would be delay, but delay in spades. In what areas is action feasible (to use the Collins word) and where not feasible? Token or real integration? Slow or fast? How to cope with state laws (Federal courts rule on state laws and push ahead with their orders). Commissions would be more than likely to make a bow toward state laws and allow later "judicial review" to handle differences. More delay.

4. If the Collins plan were enacted, would Federal courts in Southern states tend to reject direct suits and advise plaintiffs to exhaust remedies under new (Congressional) law? Ideally the commissions would be in a referee's position of expediting compliance with the law for the Federal courts. Actually, however, their main function

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would be to determine the "feasibility" of compliance--a quite different thing.

It seems to me that the net effect of the Collins plan (if adopted) would be to make for indefinite delay and to place a new myriad of obstacles before Negro parents, adding immeasurably to their frustration.

From one of my pipelines I have an idea that Governor Collins has made something of an impression on Paul Butler with his plan. My information is that Butler has not by any means bought it, but tends to regard it reasonably. Collins, of course, seeks a place on the 1960 ticket. Butler, perhaps, would like a way of showing that he is not completely and forever and adamantly anti-South.

If you have time, I'll be glad to have your views on this.

With warm regards.

Very sincerely yours,

Roy Wilkins,
Executive Secretary.

Mr. Frank W. McCulloch
Administrative Assistant to Senator Paul H. Douglas
Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C.

rw/mdj

Copies: Joseph Rauh, Esq.
Mr. Arnold Aronson
Mr. Paul Sifton
Mr. Clarence Mitchell

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# FLORIDA ANTI-NAACP RULING STAYED BY SUPREME COURT

February 26, 1959

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.--Execution of a ruling of the Florida State Supreme Court requiring local NAACP officers to answer questions asked by a Florida Legislative Committee relative to members of the organization has been stayed by the United States Supreme Court pending the filing of a writ of certiorari in the high court.

The stay, granted on Feb. 24, affords an opportunity for the NAACP to file a petition for a hearing on the state court's ruling, which, NAACP lawyers contend, is contrary to the substance of the U.S. Supreme Court decision in the Alabama case which held that the Association need not disclose the names of its members.

While the Florida court ruling does not require that the names of members be turned over to the legislative investigating committee, it requires the custodian of the list to bring it to committee hearings and, when asked whether a particular person is an NAACP member, to check the list and answer. Further, persons would be required to say, if asked, whether they had seen particular persons at NAACP meetings.

When hearings were held in Miami last year, NAACP officials refused to turn over the list of members on the ground that to do so would expose the members to reprisals and other punitive action.

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Used in P.R. 4-30-59

4-29-59

Florida State Action

PRESS RELEASE

On April 28, petition for writ of certiorari was filed in the Supreme Court of the United States on behalf of Rev. Theodore Gibson, Mrs. Ruth Perry, Mrs. Vernell Albury and Mr. G. E. Graves, Jr., members of the Miami Branch, NAACP, asking the Court to review a decision of the Supreme Court of Florida requiring petitioners to tell the Florida Investigation Committee whether certain persons are members of the NAACP and their own connection with the Association.

The basic issue raised in the petition for writ of certiorari is whether the decision of the Florida Supreme Court is in conflict with the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in NAACP v. Alabama, in respect to the right of NAACP members to privacy and freedom of association, and in conflict with Watkins v. United States, in respect to the requirement that legislative committee questions must be pertinent to a lawful legislative objective, and other decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States defining due process which must be accorded to persons in hearings before state agencies.

In February, of 1958, these petitioners, as members of the Miami Branch of the NAACP, were subpoenaed to testify before the Florida Legislative Investigation Committee. The alleged purpose of the investigation was to determine the extent of subversive penetration or infiltration into the NAACP. They were asked to bring the NAACP membership list. All appeared, but

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refused to bring the membership list. Mrs. Perry and Mr. Graves refused to answer various questions on the ground that they lacked pertinency and violated their right of freedom of speech. Mrs. Perry was subjected to a bitter and scathing denunciation by two members of the Committee, casting aspersions on her character and integrity and on the character and integrity of all the witnesses, including Mr. Graves, who had refused to answer questions, asserting constitutional rights.

Father Gibson and Mrs. Albury, who were called subsequently, refused to testify before the Committee on the ground that the Committee had shown such bias and prejudice in endorsing the remarks of these two members that it lacked jurisdiction to require any person to testify.

Contempt proceedings were instituted in the Circuit Court of Dade County, Florida, and the court upheld the Committee. An appeal was taken to the Supreme Court of Florida, which upheld the Committee's action on all essential points of difference. While the court did not require the physical delivery of the membership list, it held that the custodian of the NAACP membership list would be required to bring it to the hearings and refer to it to answer questions about various person's membership in the Association. Also, everyone called would be expected to answer questions as to their own membership and as to their personal knowledge of the membership of other persons about whom inquiry was made suspected of subversive activities.

The Supreme Court of the United States, on February 24, granted a stay of the judgment of the Florida Supreme Court,

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pending the filing of this petition for writ of certiorari.

Attorneys for petitioners are Robert L. Carter, General Counsel for the NAACP, and G. E. Graves, Jr., of Miami, Florida.

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20740 JUN23'59

# National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

## MIAMI BRANCH

Office:
809 Northwest Third Avenue
Miami 36, Florida
Phone FRanklin 7-4831

Address Communications to:
Post Office Box 6345
Station B
Miami 36, Florida

June 22, 1959

Airmail Special
Delivery
6/23/59

MEMORANDUM

TO : Mr. Roy Wilkins, Executive Secretary, NAACP

FROM : Robert W. Saunders, Field Secretary, NAACP

The legislative committee set up by the Florida State Legislature in 1956 and which has been granted a second extension of two years to investigate alleged "Communist Infiltration of the NAACP in Florida," will convene on Wednesday, June 24, 1959 to map its plans for furthering the attack on the Association.

The meeting is being called by the Chairman Charlie Johns, Stark, Florida Senator. A new chairman will be selected and the date set for resuming the hearings.

This action follows the 6-3 decision of the United States Supreme Court which turned down the appeal of four Branch officers, Father Theodore R. Gibson, Miami Branch President, Mrs. Ruth Perry, Secretary, Mrs. Vernell Albury Treasurer and Attorney G. E. Graves, Counsel in the Dade County School Suit, who questioned the Committee's authority to ask for membership lists.

cc: Mr. Gloster B. Current, Director of Branches
Mr. Robert L. Carter, General Counsel
Mrs. Ruby Hurley, S. E. Regional Secretary
Mr. Henry Lee Moon, Public Relations Director

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Florida Legislative Committee

June 25, 1959

Mrs. Vernell Albury
c/o Afro-American Insurance Company
640 N. W. Third Avenue
Miami, Florida

Father Theodore Gibson
Box 6
Miami, Florida

G. E. Graves, Esq.
802 N. W. Second Avenue
Miami, Florida

Mrs. Ruth Perry
2800 Kirk Street
Miami 33, Florida

Dear Friends:

As you know, the Supreme Court, on Monday past, denied petition for writ of certiorari in your case. I am not sure what the denial means. It could be based on the fact that conceivably the judgment is not final in view of the fact that we could go through another round in the courts by standing on our rights and being cited for contempt and appealing that to the Supreme Court. It could be based on the fact that the committee before which these hearings were held died. The new committee will have to commence its procedure all over again. Finally, it could be that in view of the recent decisions of the Supreme Court in respect to the scope of inquiry of legislative investigatory committees that the protection of witnesses before such committees has been considerably narrowed from what we thought the Court meant to say in their decisions last year.

Insofar as the question of the right of state authorities to NAACP membership lists are concerned, this issue is before the Supreme Court in a case from Arkansas which it has agreed to hear on its merits. Argument on this is scheduled for some time during the next session of the Court which begins in October.

At any rate, you are in no present danger in respect to the action which you have taken thus far. At worst, you could be called before the committee to answer the questions which you refused to answer, and if you answer them that is the end of it as far as you are concerned. I don't believe that this can be done since this is a new committee. I think that it will have to issue new subpoenaes and start the proceedings all over

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again. In any event, whether you are called before the committee again or whether you are called when a new investigation is launched, please notify me and I will come to Miami in ample time to decide what our strategy ought to be.

Let me suggest that you make no public comments about this case or the committee. I am hopeful that I will be able to see all of you or some of you in New York during the Convention so that we will be able to discuss this at some length.

Sincerely yours,

Robert L. Carter
General Counsel

RLC:plh
cc: Mr. Robert M. Saunders
Mrs. Ruby Hurley
Mr. Roy Wilkins
Mr. Gloster Current

P.S. I talked to Ruth over the telephone and she advised me that the hearings have been set for July 20 in Miami. If you are subpoenaed, please let me know. I have reservations to come down there on July 19. Of course, I will not come unless you are subpoenaed to appear.

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RLC

2800 Kirk St.
Miami 33, Fla.
June 23, 1959.

20757 JUN24'59

Mr. Robert Carter, General Counsel
NAACP
20 West 40th Street
New York 18, N.Y.

Dear Bob:

What a terrible commentary on the world we live in, when my correspondence with you always takes on a cry for help, rather than a friendly gesture! Seriously speaking, though, I thought you would like the article about us that appears in the Tuesday Miami Herald. It will probably also appear in the Miami News, and if so I will send that along later.

The first I knew about the Supreme Court's decision was a call on the phone from a Herald reporter. He read me the entire news report as it came from the wires, and asked for my comment. I told him that I was not trying to be uncooperative, but that it was impossible for me to give a comment at this time. I reached Vernell Albury by phone and she also is keeping quiet. We must hope for the best about Father Gibson. I have not heard from him as yet, but surely hope that he makes no comment either. Graves was quoted in this morning's Herald somewhat differently than what appeared in last night's Herald (the early edition I am enclosing.) In this morning's paper he said: that "we had reached the end of the road, and would have to abide by the Florida Supreme Court's decision, and after I have studied the decision, I will have some further comment."

I have learned a few things the hard way, and one is to make no comment on something as touchy as this. According to the Herald, and our old friend Charlie Johns, the committee is meeting this Wednesday, and I expect they will be breathing down our necks soon. I also imagine that you have noted that Cliff Herrell, my mortal enemy, is slated for the chairmanship. Well, as I see it from here, it all adds up to a regular witch hunt down here very shortly.

Just between the two of us, I have lost a little faith in Attorney Graves, in his judgment in some things, that is. He always seems so optimistic in any NAACP case, and sometimes appears to me slightly unrealistic. In this instance, he was absolutely positive that the Supreme Court would rule in our favor. In other matters in the past, also, I have felt that he sometimes does not always agree with national policy. These days when we are travelling over such shaky ground, we must be as certain as we can be, and adhere to national policy, if we are to be effective, and as safe (!) as possible in our work here in the south. In other words, Bob, I want to feel that in any future dealings with the Legislative Committee, I am following your advice and counsel, rather than any attorney's advice down here. I feel you and your staff up there can take a larger view of the whole thing, and can counsel accordingly. I am now asking you, after you have studied the whole matter, to give us counsel on what course to pursue when the Committee meets in Miami. I have a feeling it will be soon.

Luckily Bob Saunders was in town, so I got word to him immediately, and he called you right away. Thank you for your message. I was bitterly disappointed, of course, when I heard about the refusal to hear our case, but it did not come as a complete surprise or shock to me. The way the decisions have been going lately, I have had a very bad feeling that possibly we would lose. This is another thing that

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worries me. If a thing is right, I do not see how so many political shenanigans and expedient deals can enter into it. Maybe I am naive, and idealistic, but surely there can be only one way to interpret the rights guaranteed all citizens in the Constitution. However, it looks as though I am wrong. Our whole fight down here is going to be jeopardized if the Supreme Court is being influenced by the states' rights argument. I do not believe in too much power for the Supreme Court, or for the states, but I do believe implicitely in our Constitution, and it begins to look as though that too, can be tossed around as a political football. At this point I feel very discouraged and frustrated.

Our head librarian is away at a convention, so I will not know his reaction for a week. I may call one of my friends on the Board of Trustees tomorrow to see how she feels about it. There is no doubt in my mind but that the Legislative Committee is going to try to have a field day, as I think you can gather from the Herald article. They are convinced now, that the Supreme Court thinks we are all Red down here. I hope we can put up some sort of fight that will squelch those awful "Communistic" red herrings the Committee has thrown, and is throwing around. The Supreme Court's decision didn't help us any, that's for sure.

I may as well tell you that I have a personal problem, too, not only concerning my apprehensions about my job, but about Walter. You know our membership down here has fallen way down, due in great part, I think, to the Johns' Committee. Walter still, and increasingly so, does not quite understand why I keep on working with the NAACP and put myself in vulnerable positions, when Negroes themselves seem to be afraid and have turned their back on the organization very largely here in Miami. I try, again and again to explain to him that this is just the time that the NAACP needs people to stand firm, and try to hold what ground we have gained. I tell him that if a thing is right, it's just as right when things are going well, as when things are going badly. I try to explain that the Constitution does not change, it is the people who do the political flim-flam. However, I really believe in his heart he thinks as I do, but he is just greatly concerned for me.

This letter by now sounds somewhat like a soap opera, but I don't mean it that way. I just want to do the best I can, according to my beliefs, and try not to get my head chopped off. (A human reaction, don't you think).

Will be glad to hear from you when you have time to write. Don't think I can make it to the convention, and in any event, maybe that friendly committee will be here by then. With best personal regards from Walter and myself,

As ever sincerely,

Ruth

Ruth W. Perry

The Miami Herald

Tuesday, June 23, 1959 Complete State News

Section C

AMUSEMENTS 2-4
CLASSIFIED 5-15

*Communist Probe Upheld*

# Miami NAACP Told To Testify

## Hearings To Resume In Miami

The U.S. Supreme Court Monday, in effect, ordered four Miamians to tell all they know about alleged Communist activities in the Miami chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Color-

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ni Herald
Complete State News

Section C

AMUSEMENTS 2-4
CLASSIFIED 5-15

***Communist Probe Upheld***

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## Hearings To Resume In Miami

The U.S. Supreme Court Monday, in effect, ordered four Miamians to tell all they know about alleged Communist activities in the Miami chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The high court voted 6-3 to deny the group a hearing on the grounds that their constitutional rights of privacy and freedom of belief and association would be violated if they were forced to answer questions on their NAACP activities.

**The ruling paved the way for resumption of a state legislative investigation into alleged Communist infiltration of the NAACP in Florida.**

Hearings are expected to be resumed soon in Miami.

G. E. Graves, Jr., attorney for the Miami chapter, told The Herald he was "d i s a p-pointed, of course," on the court's decision, but said the members "will naturally abide" by the earlier Florida Supreme Court ruling.

The State tribunal last December said the Miami NAACP membership list did not have to be turned over to Florida State investigators, but must be brought in for ready reference by the witnesses.

**The four witnesses who bucked the S t a t e Supreme court ruling and went to Washington included Graves, the Rev. Theodore R. Gibson, 8491 Hibiscus Ave., Coconut**

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for the Advancement of Colored People.

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**The four witnesses who bucked the State Supreme court ruling and went to Washington included Graves, the Rev. Theodore R. Gibson, 3481 Hibiscus Ave., Coconut Grove; Mrs. Ruth W. Perry, librarian at Miami Beach Public Library; and Mrs. Vernell P. Albury, 7156 NW 15th Ct.**

They were first summoned before the Florida Legislative Investigation Committee in Miami on Feb. 26, 1958, with instructions to bring all books, records and lists of members of the NAACP.

The committee, headed by Sen. Charley E. Johns of Starke, said it wanted to find out whether Communists had infiltrated the association.

Johns, who has served as the committee's chairman the past two years, said the Supreme Court's ruling would be discussed at a committee meeting in Tallahassee at 11 a.m., Wednesday. He will surrender the chairmanship, probably to Dade Rep. W. C. Herrell, at that time.

**"I feel very good about the court ruling," Johns said. "Hearings will be resumed soon in Miami."**

The committee was continued, with two new members, by the 1959 legislature so the investigation could be completed. The committee told the legislature that there is no doubt Communists have infiltrated the NAACP "and our job now is to determine the extent."

Membership of the committee besides Johns and Herrell are Sens. H. H. Hair, Live Oak, and C. Randolph Hodges, Cedar Key, and Reps. Ben Hill Griffin of Frostproof, John E. Mathews of Jacksonville and William G. O'Neill Jr., of Ocala.

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#21120-6/26

June 25, 1959

Mrs. Vernell Albury
c/o Afro-American Insurance Company
640 N. W. Third Avenue
Miami, Florida

Father Theodore Gibson
Box 6
Miami, Florida

G. E. Graves, Esq.
602 N. W. Second Avenue
Miami, Florida

Mrs. Ruth Perry
2800 Kirk Street
Miami 33, Florida

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Sincerely yours,

Robert L. Carter
General Counsel

RLC:plh
cc: Mr. Robert W. Saunders
Mrs. Ruby Hurley
Mr. Roy Wilkins
Mr. Gloster Current

P.S. I talked to Ruth over the telephone and she advised me that the hearings have been set for July 20 in Miami. If you are subpoenaed, please let me know. I have reservations to come down there on July 19. Of course, I will not come unless you are subpoenaed to appear.

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RLC

State Action
Florida

21233 JUN29'59

Fla. Legislature Case

25 June 1959

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. Roy Wilkins
Mr. Robert L. Carter
Mr. Gloster B. Current
Mrs. Ruby Hurley
Mr. Henry Lee Moon

FROM: Bob Saunders

Attached is a clipping from the Tampa Morning Tribune, issue of June 25, 1959.

All persons concerned in Florida have agreed not to issue any statements but to await official State Conference actions and advice from the National Office.

Date for resuming the investigation is July 20, in Miami. The new chairman is Rep. Cliff Herrell of North Miami.

RWS/cf

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TAMPA MORNING TRIBUNE
DATE: 6/23/59
PAGE 12

# States Rights Bill Survives House Test

WASHINGTON, June 22. (UPI) — The House agreed today to take up a controversial states' rights bill opposed by administration officials but backed by a powerful coalition of Southern Democrats and Republicans.

The measure cleared its first hurdle by a roll call vote of 233-116.

The bill, identical to one passed by the House last year but pigeonholed by the Senate, is expected to win House approval again after two or three days of oratory.

Designed to prevent federal legislation from canceling state laws on the same subject, the bill's most controversial feature is the 74-word provision spelling out the design.

The provision says that courts shall not hold that federal laws exclude state laws in the same field unless Congress specifically says so or unless there is an irreconcilable conflict with the federal legislation.

**Wide Disagreement**

Friends and foes of the measure disagreed violently as to the actual effect of the bill.

Rep. Clarence J. Brown (R., Ohio) said the bill would "just protect and continue" the right of state legislatures to make laws on state matters.

But Chairman Emanuel Celler (D., N. Y.) of the House Judiciary Committee attacked it an a "many-headed monster" which would mark a "disorderly retreat from the 20th Century."

He said its intent was a "drive" against unions and suppression of the rights of Negroes, a charge denied by the bill's author Rep. Howard W. Smith (D., Va.).

Sen. Herman E. Talmadge (D., Ga.) has introduced similar legislation in the Senate — and made similar denials. Talmadge's bill is pending before the Senate Judiciary Committee.

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TAMPA MORNING TRIBUNE
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# Court Denies Hearing To Four Dade NAACP Men

TALLAHASSEE, June 22. (UPI)—The U. S. Supreme Court today paved the way for resumption of a state legislative investigation into alleged Communist infiltration of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in Florida.

The high court denied a hearing to four Miami NAACP officials who last year refused to produce membership records or answer questions before a legislative committee headed by State Sen. Charley E. Johns of Starke.

Johns said plans for further hearings in Miami will be made at a reorganization of the committee in Tallahassee Wednesday. At that time, Johns said, he will surrender the chairmanship. He forecast it would go to State Rep. W. C. Herrell of Miami Springs.

**Committee Continued**

The committee was continued, with two new members, by the 1959 legislature so the investigation could be completed. The committee told the legislature that there is no doubt Communists have infiltrated the NAACP "and our job now is to determine the extent."

Membership of the committee besides Johns and Herrell are Sens. H. H. Hair, Live Oak, and C. Randolph Hodges, Cedar Key, and Reps. Ben Hill Griffin of Frostproof, John E. Mathews of Jacksonville and William G. O'Neill, Jr., of Ocala.

The hearings were halted after the NAACP officials appealed to the nation's highest tribunal a Florida Supreme Court ruling ordering them to answer questions and give the investigators the names of members who might also be Communists.

**Called in 1958**

The witnesses were first summoned before the Florida legislative investigation committee in Miami on Feb. 26, 1958, with instructions to bring all books, records and lists of members of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The committee said it wanted to find out whether Communists had infiltrated the association.

Those subpoenaed were G. E. Graves, Jr., attorney for the NAACP's Miami branch; The Rev. Theodore R. Gibson, Mrs. Ruby W. Perry and Mrs. Vernell P. Albury.

**Refuse to Answer**

When the four appeared without the records and refused to answer questions, they were cited for contempt by the committee, which took the matter to Dade County Circuit Court.

Circuit Judge Ray Pearson ordered them to produce the records and answer questions. But his order was modified somewhat by the Florida Supreme Court.

That tribunal said the membership list did not have to be turned over to the committee but it must be brought in for ready reference by the witnesses.

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TAMPA MORNING TRIBUNE
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# 4 Rapists Get Life Sentences

## Leon Judge Tells 4 Youths They 'Are Fortunate'; Negro Escapes Chair In 2nd Case

(PHOTO ON PAGE 3)

By MARTIN WALDRON
Tribune Staff Writer

TALLAHASSEE, June 22.—Judge W. May Walker gave four white youths most of an hour to say goodbyes today, and then sentenced them to life in prison for raping a Negro college girl seven weeks ago.

Walker

Families of the boys wept from the front row of the almost empty courtroom as the judge pronounced sentence.

"You are fortunate indeed that the jury recommended mercy," said the judge. "Yours was a horrible and deplorable crime."

Under Florida law, life was the maximum sentence the judge could give with the recommendation of mercy.

Sentenced were Willion Ted Collinsworth, 23-year-old telephone company linesman.

Patrick Gene Scarborough, 20-year-old airman.

David Ervin Beagles, 18-year-old high school senior.

Ollie Adel Stoutamire, 16-year-old who quit school last year.

They were convicted June 14 of abducting a 19-year-old Negro girl from a dancing party and raping her seven times.

### Negro Escapes Chair

Shortly after Judge Walker dispatched the four youths to Raiford prison, a judge in nearby Marianna granted a new trial to a 16-year-old Negro, Jimmie Lee Clark, who had been convicted May 27 of raping a 68-year-old white woman.

Judge E. C. Welch said he

(Continued on Page 3, Col. 1)

# Four Tallahassee Rapists Given Life Sentences

(Continued from Page 1)

had erred in his charge to the jury, and ruled Clark should have a new trial.

Clark immediately pleaded guilty and was sentenced to life imprisonment.

Under his jury conviction, he would have been sentenced to death since there was no recommendation of mercy.

**Delayed Sentencing**

Judge Welch had deferred sentence pending a hearing on a motion for new trial by Clark's lawyer, B. L. Solomon of Marianna. Solomon contended that an alleged confession introduced should be viewed with extreme caution.

Welch, while noting he had told the jury the confession was not absolute evidence of guilt, conceded he had not stressed the point sufficiently to meet the test of court rules.

Judge Walker pronounced sentence in the widely-publicized Tallahassee case at 9:45 o'clock.

**Relatives on Hand**

In the hour before this, relatives of the defendants crowded around them to say farewell.

The relatives of the youths seemed stunned at the sentences, although it was generally expected the judge would deal severely with the four defendants.

Two Negroes, who had been called as witnesses in another case, were the sole occupants of the Negro balcony.

In the four-day trial of the youths earlier this month, hundreds of Negroes milled around the courthouse.

Tears spilled down Collinsworth's cheeks as he made a horsie of his lap for his 2-year-old son. The boy climbed around on him until his grandmother came and took him away.

Collinsworth's wife, Pearlie, 21, knelt on the floor beside her husband and wept in deep despair. She rested her face on his knee as she cried.

The Beagles were late in arriving and got to the courtroom only

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for rape until 10 years have been served.

**Questions Each**

In a poignant scene after sentencing, Judge Walker asked:

"Have any of you ever heard of the supreme ruler of the universe?"

The boys stood mute before the bar. The soft sobbing of women was the only sound in the still courtroom.

"How about you, Patrick? Have you heard of the supreme ruler of the universe?" asked the judge.

"No sir," said Scarborough, shaking his head.

"How about you, Collinsworth?"

"No sir."

"David?"

"No sir."

"Ollie?"

"No sir."

**'Supreme Ruler . . . God'**

"The supreme ruler of the universe is God," said Judge Walker. "He is the one to whom you should direct your appeal—for comfort and advice.

"He is the supreme ruler of the universe. God. He may offer you some comfort.

"I commend Him to you as one who can be a great benefactor to each of you, if you call on Him humbly and prayerfully."

The judge cast his advice to the boys, but his words seemed meant as well for their families who sat, heads bowed, in the front row.

Finished in his remarks, the judge signaled to Sheriff William Joyce, who in turn waved to four deputies standing guard.

Two dead-panned deputies in plain clothes snapped handcuffs on the four and hustled them from the courtroom.

Collinsworth's little boy hopped down from his seat and swung on the railing around the court area as his father was led away.

Mrs. Collinsworth, dissolved in tears, did not watch.

Beagles' father held his fingers to his mouth in stunned silence, and his mother wept.

None of the defendants looked back as they left the place of judgment.

**Shrugs Shoulders**

Stoutamire, handcuffed to Beagles, shrugged his shoulders as they filed past the empty jury box to the cars waiting to speed them to Raiford.

Stoutamire whispered something to Beagles just as they left the courtroom.

It sounded as if he said: "Pretty rough, huh?"

The four youths arrived with two deputies at Raiford shortly after noon.

Supt. DeWitt Sinclair met them at the main gate but said the four said nothing as they stood waiting for receipts to be signed for them.

Then they were taken to the reception center to begin the long routine of getting numbers, changing clothes, being fingerprinted and photographed and going through many tests and examinations, getting immunization shots and undergoing interviews by the classification committee.

"It takes about a month," Sinclair said. "After it's all over they'll be assigned to whatever work they have an aptitude for, considering prison routine and security."

There is no special place for lifers in the prison.

Superintendent Sinclair said, "We don't have room enough for those we have now. We had 2613 today before these four came in."

The family of the 19-year-old rape victim issued a statement tonight in which it said Judge Walker was to be commended.

"We will forever be grateful to State Attorney (William D.) Hopkins and his staff for the sincere and thorough efforts exerted in the case," the statement added.

"We are now in the process of getting our child rehabilitated and trying to forget the whole mess."

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(Continued from Page 1)

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The Beagles were late in arriving and got to the courtroom only minutes before the sentencing. Mrs. Beagles, wearing a white nylon uniform, ran to David and kissed him fervently.

His father hugged him and his two teenage sisters gave him a peck on the cheek.

Scarborough's grandfather patted him fondly, and chatted with him during the wait.

**Confers With Attorney**

Stoutamire's court-appointed attorney, City Judge John Rudd, took him to a corner of the courtroom and kept him in deep conversation for 10 minutes.

Several of Collinsworth's other close relatives, including a sister, Mrs. Don Reeves, and a brother, Tom, were on hand.

**Talks With Brother**

When he first came in the courtroom, Collinsworth crooked his finger at his brother, and they stood and talked quietly for several minutes.

Mrs. Reeves, who collapsed while testifying during the trials, was too broken up to talk with Collinsworth.

The farewells were interrupted by arrival of the judge promptly at 9:30. Wearing a brown suit and his ever cheerful smile, Walker sat down in his seat and shuffled a few papers.

"Order in the court," he said.

The courtroom already was as still as a cathedral.

"Order. Order," called a court attache.

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**Urge Sentencing**

The four attorneys for the defendants withdrew requests for time to prepare motions and for new trials. They urged the judge to pass sentence at once.

"Very well. Motions sustained," said the judge.

He called the defendants to their feet. One by one they rose, Scarborough, Beagles, Stoutamire and Collinsworth.

Walker sentenced them in that order.

**Nothing to Say**

Did they have anything to say before sentence was passed?

Scarborough?

"No sir.",

Beagles?

"No sir."

Stoutamire?

"No sir."

Collinsworth?

"No sir."

"Very well," said Judge Walker. "The responsibility of the court in this instance is not a pleasant one. The court does not like to impose prison sentences on a group of young men.

**"Deplorable Crime"**

"Yours was a horrible and deplorable crime, and committed under horrible condition. The court feels sorry for you, and feels sorry for the prosecutrix on which the crime was committed.

"Yet the duty of this court transcends and rises above regret.

"The offense each of you committed was most opprobrious, and you are fortunate indeed that the jury recommended mercy.

"This court has tried many, many cases of rape and in no instance has this court (given a sentence of less than) the electric chair or life imprisonment in the state penitentiary.

"Now, it becomes the duty of this court to deal with the cases now before the bar in like manner as has been dealt with in other cases.

**"Solemn Duty"**

"So you have been convicted on the high crime of rape, and the jury having recommended mercy, it becomes the solemn duty of this court to pronounce sentence on each of you.

"Accordingly, it is the judgment of this court that you, Patrick Gene Scarborough, be imprisoned in the state penitentiary for the term of your natural life."

He intoned the same sentence for the other three. Collinsworth winced as his name was called and sentence imposed.

The life sentence means that each will be eligible for parole after six months. But the State Paroles Commission seldom considers parole in life sentences

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## FSU HEAD APPEARS FOR 'INFORMAL CHAT'—

# Committee Votes To Resume Probe Of Red Activity In NAACP

BY MARTIN WALDRON
Tribune Staff Writer

TALLAHASSEE, June 24. (By Staff Writer)—A committee of state legislators today voted to resume an investigation of Communist activity in the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Herrell

State Sen. Charley E. Johns of Starke said witnesses who won't cooperate with the committee should "be thrown in jail."

The committee, under its new chairman, Rep. W. C. Herrell of Miami, set July 20 as the date to resume its investigation.

The first hearing will be in Miami.

**Put Skids to Kasper**

This is the committee which put the skids to John Kasper, segregation rabble-rouser, two years ago.

Dr. Robert M. Strozier, president of Florida State University, appeared before the committee this afternoon in a secret session.

Strozier said he came for "an informal chat."

He steadfastly refused to answer questions about his appearance, but said it was voluntary.

**Offer of Cooperation**

Herrell said later that Strozier "wanted to offer his cooperation."

There was no indication today whether the committee will get any cooperation from the NAACP in Miami.

The organization filed suit against the committee in February, 1958, challenging its right to force witnesses to testify.

The U. S. Supreme Court threw out the suit Monday, denying the Miami Negroes a hearing.

**Doesn't Know Plans**

In Miami today, The Rev. Theodore R. Gibson, president of the NAACP there, said he did not know if resistance to the committee would continue.

"We haven't received a copy of the Supreme Court's ruling yet," Gibson said. "As soon as we have had a chance to read it, we will make a statement."

Gibson attacked committee members as being prejudiced and biased. "They castigated certain witnesses even before they had a chance to testify," Gibson said.

**'Will Cooperate'**

Later, the NAACP attorney in Miami, G. E. Graves, said the organization had had its "last day in court" and that it would cooperate with the committee.

At its reorganization meeting today, the committee rehired Mark Hawes of Tampa as attorney at $11,000 a year and A. J. Strickland of Tallahassee as investigator at $8400 a year.

"You could search all over the United States and not find better ones," Johns said.

**'No Doubt'**

Johns, past chairman of the committee, said in a report to the legislature last month that there is no doubt that the Communist Party "has infiltrated and influenced" the NAACP.

"The only question is the extent," he said.

Johns said the "way those witnesses defied the committee in Miami last year was ridiculous. I hope we bring them all back and if they don't testify, they should be thrown in jail."

The committee made a financial report showing that it spent $67,500 in the past two years, most of it during the last six months of 1957.

**Little Action**

It has not been too active in the past year except for an investigation of homosexuality in the teaching staff at the University of Florida.

No one would say this afternoon if Strozier's appearance before the committee heralded a possible investigation of the same subject at FSU.

Herrell said no investigation at the big state university is planned at this time.

He said Strozier pledged his fullest cooperation in any investigation the committee might want to make.

**First Business**

"Our first order of business will be the Miami situation," Herrell said.

In addition to investigating the NAACP, the committee has taken a look at the Ku Klux Klan.

The committee's financial report shows the following money spent in the past two years:

Office supplies, $1285; printing, $35; telephone, telegraph and postage, $1467; photostats, $189; travel, $12,396; informant fees, $4640; salaries, $38,406; rent of equipment, $55; court reporter fees, $6182; revolving fund, $2500.

Committee members besides Herrell and Johns are Sens. Randolph Hodges of Cedar Key and H. H. Hair of Live Oak, and Reps. Ben Hill Griffin, Jr., Frostproof; William G. O'Neill, Ocala, and John E. Mathews, Jr., Jacksonville.

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Helps You Overcome

FALSE TEETH

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TAMPA MORNING TRIBUNE
DATE: 6/23/59
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# Your Turn, New York

IN TWO COURTS yesterday, Florida demonstrated that its justice does not come in two colors.

At Tallahassee, Circuit Judge W. May Walker concluded his eminently fair handling of the widely-publicized Tallahassee rape case by sentencing four young white men to life terms in prison for their assault on a Negro coed. He could have given them only a few months in jail or freed them on probation. They ranged in age from 16 to 23.

At Marianna, Circuit Judge E. C. Welch conceded that he had erred in his instructions to the jury in the trial of a 16-year-old Negro recently sentenced to death for the rape of a white woman. He granted a new trial and, when the defendant thereupon pleaded guilty, sentenced him to life imprisonment.

White and black, charged with the same crime, thus suffered the same punishment. In both instances, it was a proper penalty.

Even the spokesmen for the NAACP, so quick to charge discrimination in the courtroom, acknowledged the fairness of this record.

"We are definitely on our way toward eliminating the double standard of justice", said the Tallahassee NAACP president, the Rev. David H. Brooks.

There is no reason for Floridians to feel smug. Our consciences will be tested many times and none can say whether we will always pass the test so well. The fight to keep justice blind to color—or to wealth or social position or political influence—will continue as long as crime occurs.

But Florida, having passed its own immediate test, is certainly entitled to look now toward New York, to see how well justice is served there in a case with racial implications.

Four Negro youths, 16 and 17 years old, are charged with dragging a 14-year-old white girl into a dark corner of a schoolyard and raping her. Their act[illegible] the wo[illegible]s of the committing ma[illegible]rate, was "an outrageous, unconscionable, dastardly crime."

Much of the criticism of Southern cu[illegible]s emanates from New York.

**JUDGE WALKER**
**One-Color Justice**

Several New York newspapers sent reporters to cover the Tallahassee rape trial. They were there to observe how impartially the state would regard this kind of offense against a Negro, in view of the South's supposed "double standard" of justice.

Well, we in the South have heard reports that minority political pressures in New York have created a sort of double standard there; that excessive leniency is shown Negro offenders to avoid a political cry of "Jim Crowism."

The New York crime is as grave in nature, as brutal in circumstances, as that in Tallahassee. There is not much difference in the ages of the offenders.

So how seriously will a New York court and a New York jury regard it? Will the guilty be as promptly tried and convicted, as severely punished as they were in Tallahassee? Or will a reverse race consciousness soften the treatment for these predators of the asphalt jungle?

These, we think, are questions of considerable significance in the national striving for equal justice. To make certain that the answers are fully known, it might be well for Southern newspapers to send reporters to New York.

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November 5, 1959

Mr. Roy Wilkins
Executive Secretary, NAACP
20 West 40th Street
New York 18, New York

Dear Mr. Wilkins:

The following report covers the hearings conducted by the Florida Legislative Interim Committee, which was extended for another two years by the 1959 legislature, for the purposes of investigating alleged communist infiltration of the Florida State Conference of Branches.

A. Historical Background

The Legislative Committee was originally organized by the Florida State Legislature to investigate "Those organizations operating in the State of Florida and whose purposes and intents are not to the best interest of the people of Florida" Since its formation this committee has continuously sought to call on NAACP officials to seek information pertaining to membership lists and the identity of persons alleged to be members of the Association. The first attack was begun in February of 1957 contin-

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Mr. Roy Wilkins
Executive Secretary, NAACP

ued in September 1957 with hearings in Miami and again in 1958. The 1958 hearings were begun in Tallahassee where members of the Florida Human Relations Council were also subpoenaed and testified under protest.

Later, in February of 1958 this committee resumed hearings in Miami, Florida where officials of the Miami Branch refused to surrender membership list and stalked out of the committee in protest to certain remarks made by representative, Cliff Herall. The committee proceeded to cite the Rev. Theodore R.Gibson, Mrs. Ruth W. Perry, Mrs. Vernell Albury and Atty. C. E.Graves for contempt. The case was heard and appealed to the U. S.Supreme Court which refused to hear a decision of the Florida Supreme Court. That in effect, required persons called by the committee to testify, to bring with them the records demanded by the committee and to refer to said records in answer to the committee's questions.

B. 10 persons were subpoenaed to appear at a hearing at Tallahassee, Florida on November 4, 1959. The hearing was scheduled to begin at 9 A. M. in Room 52 of the Capital Building but did not start until 10:30. The committee recessed after the roll call of witnesses until 2 P. M. to "Await the arrival of other witnesses". Apparently, the"other witnesses" was one Arlington Sands, former Vice President of the Miami Branch in 1949, and alleged to have a member of the Communist Party in 1950-51. Sands was the only witness absent at the time of the roll call, and the only one to testify at the hearing that was not present at the original call.

NAACP Representatives called were:

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Mr. Roy Wilkins
Executive Secretary, NAACP

1. Fr. Theodore R. Gibson, Miami Branch President
2. Mrs. Ruth Willis Perry " " Secretary
3. Mrs. Vernell Albury " " Treasurer
4. Atty. Grantlan E.Graves Legal Advisor
5. Rev. A. Leon Lowry, NAACP State Conference President.

C. Counsel for NAACP persons were:

Robert L. Carter, NAACP General Council; Frank D. Reeves, Washington, D. C. and Graves, Miami.

Fr.Gibson cooperated with the committee to the extent that he was willing to state if he knew alleged communists of if he had ever seen them attend any NAACP Meetings. He denied knowing most of the persons in the pictures shown him except one or two long time residents of Miami and a filling station operator. The testimony of Mrs. Perry, Mrs. Albury and Graves followed the same pattern. Gibson stated that he was the custodian of the records and that under no circumstances would he bring to the committee NAACP Membership List to identify persons. Reference must be made here to the question of multiple branches. The committee's council, Markhaws, after finding out that Fr. Gibson had been branch president of the Miami Branch for five (5) years, and that he did not remember having ever seen any of the alleged subversives attending NAACP meetings, began an inquiry leading into the number of branches in Dade County, whether they were still in existence today and if alleged communist could have taken part in meetings of these branches. One question asked was "Maybe we are not questioning the right people" Fr. Gibson testified that all branches in Dade County had been confined into one Greater Miami Chapter of NAACP.

D. Conclusion:

Rev. A. Leon Lowry who had been present all day Wednesday and who requested that the committee hear his testimony so that he could return to his duties as Dean of the West Coast Baptist Association was reprimanded verbally and a resolution passed called on the 1961 Legislature to cite him for contempt. Fr. Gibson was also cited for contempt and a complaint is being filed with the circuit court in Tallahassee, for a show cause order.

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Mr. Roy Wilkins
Executive Secretary, NAACP

Other NAACP witnesses were excused and Rev. Edward T. Graham, of Miami, Florida was cited for failing to reveal if he is a member of the Association.

Several witnesses cited reasons for not revealing NA ACP Membership Lists among which were economic reprisals, bomb threats, cross burnings, etc.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Saunders,
Field Secretary

ENCLOSURE
CC: Mrs. Ruby Hurley
Mr. Henry Moon
Mr. Gloster Current

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# NAACP's Rev. Lowry Snubs Probe, Faces Charge

TALLAHASSEE, Nov. 5. (By Staff Writer) — Florida leaders of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People "obviously" have no desire to clean out Communist members, State Rep. W. C. Herrell charged today.

Herrell, of Miami, is chairman of a committee of state legislators which has been digging sporatically without success into the Negro organization for three years.

The committee today voted to have The Rev. A. Leon Lowry of Tampa, president of the state NAACP, held in contempt of the legislature.

Lowry did not honor a committee subpoena to be in Tallahassee today to testify. He said church business kept him away.

**Vote for Contempt Move**

Committee members, angry at Lowry's defiance, voted to ask the legislature to punish him when it meets in April, 1961.

The legislature could force him to stay in jail while it is in session.

The committee picked away at several other witnesses today, but learned little or nothing of value.

It adjourned before noon, and instructed its lawyer, Mark Hawes of Tampa, to hurry up contempt proceedings voted yesterday against two Miami Negro preachers.

Hawes will go to circuit court in Tallahassee to ask the court to force The Rev. Theodore Gibson and The Rev. Ed Graham to

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# NAACP Head Snubs Probe, Faces Charge

(Continued from Page 1)

answer questions about NAACP membership in Miami.

Hawes said the committee has evidence that there are a number of known Communists active in the Negro group in Miami.

The NAACP stand is that it will eject any members shown to be Communists, but will not let the legislature look at its membership rolls or identify any of its members.

Gibson and Graham said to do so would lead to the destruction of the NAACP in Florida through economic reprisals and possible physical harm.

Herrell said despite NAACP reluctance to help the committee, it would continue to try to find out how much Communist influence there is in the association in Florida.

**Says No Evidence**

In a prepared statement, he conceded the Tallahassee hearings turned up no evidence that there are any Communists in the NAACP in Florida.

Previous hearings and sworn statements, however, show that there is, Herrell said.

Herrell said the committee will meet again after court hearings against Gibson and Graham are concluded.

Top officials of the NAACP from New York are helping the local groups fight the legislative investigation of membership rolls.

**Outside Legal Aid**

NAACP lawyers from New York and Washington were on hand to advise several of the witnesses called in the two-day hearing ended today.

The committee tried to get NAACP records from minor officials without success today.

It called Arlington J. Sands, a former NAACP vice president from Miami; Mrs. Ruth Perry, present secretary; Vernell P. Albury, treasurer in Miami, and Attorney G. E. Graves, Jr.

All said they had no records.

Graves said he shipped all the old records to New York headquarters more than a year ago, and has not been able to get them back.

None of the witnesses would identify photographs of reputed Communists as Miami NAACP members.

Herrell said the committee believes Communists have been agitating in the Florida NAACP for 10 years or more.

"The committee, although at times thwarted in its efforts to show the extent of such Communist infiltration, feels that the citizens of Florida should be aware of such activities on the part of these individuals," he said.

## 'High Functionary' Red Operated In Dade, Say Probers

TALLAHASSEE, Nov. 5. (UPI)—The legislature's investigation of Communism in the NAACP has brought out that "a high functionary" of the Communist party has been operating recently in Dade County, it was disclosed today.

Committee counsel Mark Hawes of Tampa, identified the alleged Communist as Donald L. West, a one-time preacher in a backwoods section of Georgia.

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Committee counsel Mark Hawes of Tampa, identified the alleged Communist as Donald L. West, a one-time preacher in a backwoods section of Georgia.

Hawes said West was in Dade County as recently as two months ago. He said West, formerly of Atlanta and Louisville, has since moved to New York.

But the committee counsel did not say if or how West was connected with the Florida NAACP.

West's name was brought up Wednesday as Hawes questioned witnesses about possible Communist infiltration into the state NAACP.

## Three Killed In

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Reprinted NAACP

Received via phone from Robert Saunders, November 5, 1959

The Florida legislative investigating committee questioned Arlington Sands. He was shown about 30 pictures of NAACP members which he refused to identify; also there was a witness which he refused to identify.

Two NAACP officers were cited for contempt of court: Rev. Theodore A. Gibson, vice president of Florida State Conference and president of the Miami NAACP branch and Rev. A. Lowry, Florida State Conference president. In Lowry's case, the committee passed a resolution asking the 1961 legislature to cite him for contempt. Rev. Gibson went along with all the comittee's questions until he got to the point of identifying NAACP members and then he refused to turn over or reveal any names of persons they asked about in connection with NAACP membership. Also questioned were Mrs. Ruth W. Perry, Miami branch secretary and Mrs. Vernell Albery, branch treasurer.

The committee produced an old grand jury list of about eight or nine years ago and used this in an attempt to tie three of the people in with the NAACP. One or two of these persons no longer live in the State of Florida.

NAACP attorneys are General Counsel Robert L. Carter, G. E. Graves, NAACP attorney in Florida and Frank Reeves.

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LAW OFFICES
REEVES, ROBINSON & DUNCAN
473 FLORIDA AVENUE, N. W.
WASHINGTON 1, D. C.

FRANK D. REEVES
AUBREY E. ROBINSON, JR.
CHARLES T. DUNCAN

HOBART 2-0400

9 November 1959

Bishop Stephen Gill Spottswood
1931 16th Street, Northwest
Washington, D. C.

Dear Steve:

I am returning herewith the three volumes of NAACP Annual Conference Resolutions you were kind enough to lend me for anticipated use in connection with the recent Florida Legislative Investigation Committee hearings.

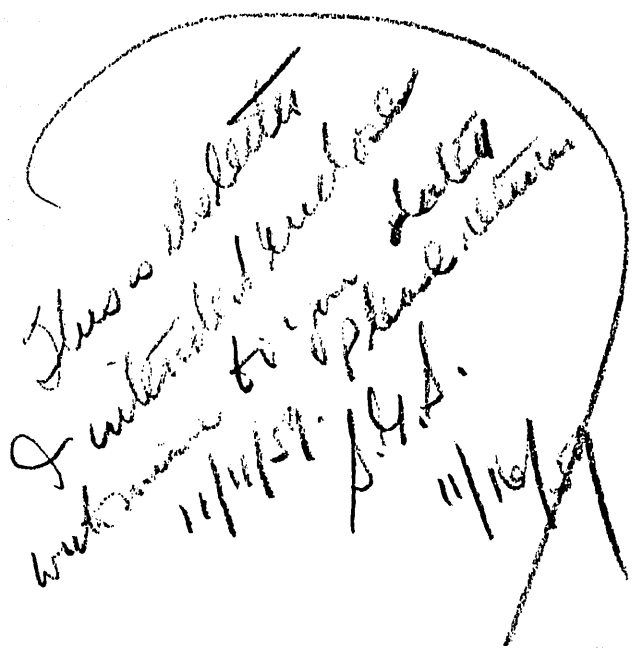
At the hearings, Rev. Theodore Gibson, President of our Miami Branch, was cited for contempt as the result of his refusal to produce the membership records of the Branch. Similarly,, Rev. Ed Graham of Miami was cited for contempt for his refusal to answer questions pertaining to his membership and the membership of other persons in the NAACP. Rev. Lowery, President of the Florida State Conference, was cited for contempt because he refused to remain for the second day of the hearing after he had asked to testify on the first day or be excused because of urgent church business in Tampa. These contempt citations by the Committee require implementation by the Florida Circuit Court. Consequently, the cited witnesses are not in immediate jeopardy. However, you may want to give some thought to what might be done to rally the clergy-Negro and White-around this issue.

Again I thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Frank

Frank D. Reeves



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November 10, 1959

Editor,
Tampa Morning Tribune
Tampa, Florida

Dear Sir:

Your editorial for Saturday, November 7, captioned "NAACP IS NOT ABOVE THE LAW", and in which you state that "Florida Officials of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People harm their own organization by their performance before the State Legislative committee investigating Communist activities," brings this communication as a means of setting the record straight and also correcting some of the opinions advanced by you which are confusing and misleading to readers.

NAACP makes no claim that it is above the law. Like good American Citizens, we feel that ours is a duty to uphold law and to protect the American way of life against its enemies. Here the question of "Duly Constituted Authority" enters. I ask, is the Legislative Committee conducting a really honest inquiry into Communistic activities in Florida or are they merely continuing the conspiracy between a few recalcitrant states that are carrying on an unrelentless attack against the U. S. Supreme Court, Northern Newspapers, the NAACP and Negroes in general?

NAACP witnesses, as the official record will reflect, and as some newspapers have reported, were not contemptous of constituted authority. The record

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Editor,
Tampa Morning Tribune

will also show that witnesses (with the exception of the Committee's investigator) testified that there is no evidence of any infiltration or domination of NAACP Branches in the State of Florida. The NAACP is not interested in what the Committee may have hidden in its own confidential files but in what has been introduced into the record by sworn testimony. The weight of this testimony taken under oath, refutes conclusively the so called evidence of the committee.

NAACP officials also cooperated with the Committee in answering all questions except those dealing with names and identities of persons who might or might not be members of the Association. It is National policy, based upon our experience with the so called "hard core" states that are resisting desegregation (and Florida is included), that the revealing of names of NAACP members so often results in hardships, intimidations and reprisals against innocent persons. Certainly Louisiana and Alabama are no different from Florida in this respect.

We remember the way in which the White Citizen Council in Suwannee County used radio facilities to mobilize support behind Governor Orville Faubus and the fear that has spread among Negro Teachers in that County. We also know that there is geniune fear in other Counties that if it becomes known that Negro teachers are members of the Association, there may be economic retaliation. Many Negro teachers do not renew memberships now because of this fear. There is also the report that one member of the committee was alleged to have written a letter to a segregationist leader in Miami almost two years ago a news article of this was carried in one of the Miami Daily papers. All of this justifies our actions in refusing to discuss membership lists of branches with this or any group.

The State president of NAACP in no way refused to testify nor did he ignore the subpoena from the Committee. Rev. Lowry left a meeting of the Florida West Coast Baptist Association where he serves as Dean, traveled by bus and arrived in Tallahassee at 4:00 A. M., Wednesday morning. At 9 A. M., the time set by the Committee to convene hearings, Rev. Lowry was in Room 52 with other witnesses. The record will show that this committee did not meet at 9 A. M., but at 10:35. It will also show that the Committee recessed until 2:00 p. m. and that at approximately 4:00 P. M., just before it adjourned, Rev. Lowry asked

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Editor,
Tampa Morning Tribune

to be heard and also stated that he would have liked for the committee to excuse him and that he would be willing to voluntarily testify at any time should he be called on by the committee. Despite the explanation, the committee would not nor did not consider the appeal by the Rev. Mr. Lowry.

The NAACP has never been cited by the Justice department or any of the Congressional Committees investigating Communists activity, as being subversive. F.B. I. Director, J. Edgar Hoover, has said of the Association "Equality, freedom and tolerance are essential in a democratic government. The NAACP has done much to preserve these principles and to perpetuate the desires of our founding fathers."
Surely, Mr. Hoover, who is an expert in the field of exposing communists should know more about subversive organizations and the Communists than the Amateurish acts of the Florida Legislature Committee.

Yes, the NAACP has always and will continue to place great emphasis on observing legal processes. But when the real motives of legal processes are hidden behind a cloak of false reasoning, then the real purpose must be revealed to the American public. This purpose as I see it, is the intimidation of Negro leadership and a continuous attack on the Association. This is the trend of Southern Legislators --This State not withstanding.

The record will show that NAACP has a method of excluding communists from its ranks when ever it is known that such persons are subversive or have subversive tendencies. If the committee was genuinely interested in investigating subversives, then why reach back into the annals of Judge Brautigan's files to base an attack on NAACP? Recent inquiries have revealed that most of the Alleged Subversives named by the Committee are no longer in the State -- some newspaper men and certainly law enforcement officials in Miami know that most left the state as early as 1951-53.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Saunders
Field Secretary, NAACP

RWS:LRE
CC: Rev. A. Leon Lowry, State President
Mr. Roy Wilkins, Executive Director
Mrs. Ruby Hurley, S. E. Regional Director
Mr. Gloster B. Current, Director of Branches
Mr. Robert L. Carter, General Counsel

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Gibson v. Florida Legislative Com.

November 17, 1959
(Dictated November 10, 1959)

AIRMAIL

Rev. A. Leon Lowry
606 East Tyler Street
Tampa, Florida

Dear Rev. Lowry:

I am writing you in respect to the action taken by the Florida Legislation Investigation Committee concerning you.

As you undoubtedly know, the Committee decided to cite you for contempt before the 1961 Legislature. While this could carry serious and severe consequences, I am reasonably certain that it is an empty gesture. Legislative committees can request the legislature to cite individuals for contempt, but it is my understanding of the law that this can be done only if the contempt is committed while the legislature is in session (which would not cover your case), and there may be a further prerequisite that the individual be taken before the legislature and there ordered to do whatever was refused before the committee, and if he persists in his refusal the legislature may cite for contempt. Our case is not covered under either eventuality, and I think you need not worry. The Committee can proceed against you only by going into court and requesting the court to order you to attend a particular session which they call.

We made a statement for the record to the Committee on your behalf at Thursday's session indicating that your religious obligations made it impossible for you to remain in Tallahassee, but that you were willing to appear before the Committee at any other time you were called.

Needless to say, advise me if and when you receive any further communications from the Committee. I want to be certain that you and all other N. A. A. C. P. people are represented by counsel, if called.

Sincerely yours,

Robert L. Carter
General Counsel

RLC:plh
cc: Mr. Robert Saunders

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Fla. State Repress Leg. Com.

October 3, 1961

Dear Bob:

Thanks for the list of the members of the new Florida legislative committee which, you say, is a "real Citizens Council committee with no liberals" from which we can expect "an attack at any time."

They may fire when ready but if they have no better ammunition than that of previous committees, they will be wasting our time.

Sincerely,

Roy Wilkins
Executive Secretary

Mr. Robert W. Saunders
705 E. Harrison St.
Tampa 2, Florida

RW/eb

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Florida State Conference of Branches
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

705 E. HARRISON STREET

TAMPA 2, FLORIDA

SEP21'61

September 20, 1961

PLEASE DIRECT REPLY TO:
Mr. Robert W. Saunders

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. Wilkins
Mr. Current
Mr. Carter
Mrs. Hurley

FROM: Robert W. Saunders

The following are persons making up the new Legislative Committee which will be operating in the State of Florida for the next two years.

From the Florida Senate:

Charlie E. Johns-----Starke (New Chairman)
Huston W. Roberts----Live Oak
Ed Fraser----------MacClenny

From the House:

George Stallings-----Duval (Jacksonville)
Ben Hill Griffin-----Polk (Bartow)
Dick Mitchell--------Leon (Tallahassee)
William C. O'Neill---Starke

This is a real Citizen Council Committee this year with no liberals. We can expect an attack at any time from it.

RWS/mj